



<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

September 2015

Busy Summer Leads to Fall Full of Issues



by Lola Britton, co-president LWV-Utah

The summer of 2015 has been slightly unusual with June hotter than July. It may have appeared The League of Women Voters of Utah took off those hot summer months, but we have been working as usual to keep the information flowing. Co-President Jenn Gonnely attended The League of Women Voters National Council held near Washington, DC. Many of our volunteers have attended Legislative Interim meetings in July and August.

The League is gearing up with great fall and spring programs of consensus studies and educational information meetings. We are excited by the enthusiasm from our members and the community with regard to the League of Women Voters US studies on Constitutional Amendments and Money in Politics. We encourage you all to visit lwvut.org to review LWVUS Constitutional Amendment materials.

There is no less enthusiasm for the League of Women Voters of Utah studies of the Right to Die with Dignity and Mail-In Ballots, and educational meetings on Human Trafficking and Sexual Violence.

Members should take full advantage of their membership by joining any of our interactive email communication groups including: Education, Elections, Health Care, Legislative Action and Natural Resources. Call or email the League office to join, lwvut@xmission.com or 801-272-8683.

INSIDE:

Plan for 2016/p2

'Vote Smart'/p3

Constitutional
Amendments/p3-4

Renew Tax Credits/p5

New Citizens/p5

Sexual Violence/p5-6

Human Trafficking/p6-7

Water Study/p7

Weber Annual Meeting/p8

Davis'Dodge/p8-9

Weber Diversity/p9

Fall Fete/p9-10

New Members/p10-11

Fight On/p11

Plan for the 2016 League Conventions

by Jenn Gonnely, Utah League of Women Voters Co-President

Hey everyone, are you looking forward to the 2016 League of Women Voters conventions? No? Let me set out a case for why you should be.

I know it seems that we just finished with state and local conventions and it might be hard to start thinking about them all over again. 2016 will be an exciting year with not only state and local conventions but the bi-annual national convention.

LWVUS Biennial Convention 2016

The LWVUS Convention is always an exciting time to meet the national board members and participate in planning for the League's vibrant future. It is also an excellent opportunity to learn about activities,

successes and even lessons learned from league members all over the country.



The 2016 LWVUS Convention will be held June 16-19, 2016 at the [Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel](#), 2660 Woodley Rd NW, Washington, D.C., 20008. The hotel is conveniently located on the Red Line of the [Washington Metro](#) for easy access from the airport and to all of the many landmarks Washington D.C., has to offer. The registration fee is \$335 per attendee and the room rate is \$209 per night.

Additionally, this location offers delegates attending from Utah an opportunity to meet with our congressional representatives and tour the White House. Tours of the White House must be requested six months in advance. See why I would like you to start thinking about it now?

With our current membership numbers, Utah will be able to send 16 delegates. If you would like to be one of these delegates please contact your local League president before the end of December so that we may start preparations to make this the best LWVUS convention ever.

League of Women Voters of Utah Annual Convention 2016

Davis County will host the 2016 State Convention on April 29-30, 2016. Keep an eye on *The Voter* for more information in the coming months. If you will be traveling to the convention, you may want to reserve your lodging soon.

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

'Vote Smart' Co-founder to Speak about Candidates

by Joyce Barnes, Committee Chair

Richard Kimball, president of Vote Smart, will be featured at a general meeting of the Salt Lake League in October.



Coming just before elections, his topic is critical to voters who wish to be informed.

Vote Smart has produced a "Voter's Self-Defense" manual that enables voters to find congressional members' voting records, funding

sources, etc. even when they refuse to answer survey questions.

"Citizens come together, not in selfish interest or to support one candidate over another, but to defend democracy. It is an extraordinary gathering of people committed to one purpose: to strengthen the most essential component of democracy — access to information — even as it suffers grave attacks from candidates and political parties, many who are now willing to manipulate information and deceive voters," the Vote Smart website says.

Vote Smart, a nonprofit organization, gives access to every candidate and elected official from the president to local government, offering voting records, biographies, campaign finance information and more.

The League has invited several groups to join us, including AAUW, YWCA, Alliance for a Better Utah, Utah Voices for Children and others interested in nonpartisan information about candidates.

Join us on Thursday, October 8 at 6 p.m. at the Holladay City Hall 4580 South 23rd East.

Amending the U.S. Constitution - Poly Sci 101

by Gigi Brandt, Vice President-Program

At the June 2014 LWVUS convention, members voted to accept a new study program "Key Structures of Democracy." It includes redistricting, the constitutional amendment process, and money in politics.

This fall League members will study the constitutional amendment process and money in politics. Because final reports are due to national on December 1 (amendment) and February 1, 2016 (money in politics), a general meeting and two unit meetings will focus on national issues.

General Meeting Aims at Voting 'Smart'

What: Vote Smart discussion presented by guest speaker Richard Kimball

Where: Holladay City Municipal Center, 4580 S. 2300 East, Salt Lake City

When: Thursday, October 8

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Light refreshments served.
Hope to see you there.

Proponents of a balanced budget amendment and opponents of the Citizens United decision have both suggested constitutional amendments as a way to change government policy. During the 2015 Utah State Legislative Session, Utah became the 26th state to call for a Constitutional Convention to propose a federal balanced budget amendment. Thirty-four states are required to call for a convention.

The Legislature did, however, defeat a bill by Rep. Ken Ivory, R-Salt Lake, for a general Constitutional Convention that theoretically would have opened up the convention to any and all topics. The LWVUS study will give you a chance to discuss this very issue.

Article V of the U.S. Constitution provides two ways of proposing amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Congress, by a two-thirds vote of both chambers, may propose constitutional amendments to the states for ratification. The legislatures of two-thirds of the states (34 at present) also may ask Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution. This is commonly called an Article V Convention.

Amendments proposed by either method must be ratified by three-fourths (38) of the states. The first method has been used by Congress to submit 33 amendments to the states, beginning with the Bill of Rights. Of these, 27 were approved, although 26 are in effect, because one – the 18th Amendment (Prohibition) — was ultimately repealed. The second method, an Article V Convention, has never been successfully invoked. The national League has no position on supporting the concept of an Article V convention or the way an Article V convention should be handled. Neither does the League have a position on the criteria for supporting or opposing a particular constitutional amendment. Now the LWVUS study will give you a chance to suggest such criteria.

Political Science 101 — Class is about to begin for League members. Study material prepared by the committee has been posted for member input. The Constitutional Amendment Study Guide includes the Background, Foundation Readings, Consensus Questions, Points of View and Specific References for the questions. The Utah League /website (<http://lwvutah.org>) has a link to the study material and study guide on our home page.

A study committee for the Salt Lake/Davis County area is being formed. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Gigi Brandt (801-582-1102, gigibrandt@xmission.com).

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

& Katharine Biele

kobkathy@gmail.com

Salt Lake League Firming Up Programs for 2015-16

Utah and the local leagues have a lot of work to do this year. Salt Lake is still working on its programs for the upcoming year, but please plan to attend and help out wherever you can. Take a look at this work in progress online at <http://lwwutah.org/saltlake/index.html>.

League Urges Congress to Renew EITC and CTC

by Jenn Gonnely, Utah League of Women Voters Co-President

The League of Women Voters US joined coalition partners on a letter to Congress urging the renewal of critical provisions of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and refundable Child Tax Credit (CTC) before they expire. The EITC and CTC are among the nation's strongest tools to help working families escape poverty and achieve greater self-sufficiency.

Read [the letter](#) which our Utah League supports and signed.

Voter Services Registers New Citizens As Voters

by Carol Jenson, 1st Vice President-Program, LWV-SL

This is the Place Heritage Park was the setting for the new U.S. Citizens Naturalization



Ceremony, presided over by U.S. District Court Judge David Sam. There were 150 new U.S. citizens from more than 52 different countries, with many friends and family members in attendance. Members of the League of Women Voters of Salt Lake City, (from left: Sue McNeil, a new citizen, Carol Jenson,

Karen McCoy, Luana Chilleli) congratulated the new citizens and passed out Voter Registration forms.

Sexual Violence Study Volunteers Needed

This year an educational study on sexual violence was approved during the annual League of Women Voters Convention. This study will explore the prevalence of sexual violence in Utah, the correlation between mental

Help the League Help Democracy

Our donors are critical partners in creating a government that is responsive to the will of Utahns. Your gift is important to us as we work on the public policy issues being addressed by our elected officials. It will help us educate, advocate and reform by empowering Utahns to make their voices heard. Scan the QR code below with your smart phone or follow [this link](#) to the League webpage.



health issues and sexual victimization, gaps in treatment of victims and perpetrators of sexual violence, sexual violence awareness efforts, and current laws and penalties for different types of sexual offenses.

The purpose of this study is to provide information to members of the League of Women Voters of Utah as well as the broader community about sexual violence issues. This information will help individuals make informed decisions about future legislation which may occur, and the forum in itself will raise awareness.

I will be working with a professor at the University of Utah to develop a plan to gather information and explore issues on this topic for my Major Research Paper, which is the project I will complete this semester to earn my Masters of Public Administration.

I am seeking individuals who would be interested in contributing to this study. Upon completion a presentation, potentially in conjunction with related service agencies, will be provided to the league membership.

— Aaron Bryant: LCSW, LSUDC
Aaron.bryant@hsc.utah.edu
801-979-6995

Attend League Discussion On Human Trafficking

by Polly Hough, Activities Promotion co-director, LWV-SL

League members might have been surprised last January to learn that Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes had assisted recently in breaking up a child trafficking ring in Colombia, posing as a security guard, and translating for traffickers and business men intending to sell about 55 children to buyers. When a group called Operation Underground RR brought the ring to his attention, Reyes decided to assist, and then to appear on KSL to educate the public about the seizing of children, women and men as sex and labor slaves.

The United Nations reports trafficking as the third largest worldwide crime after arms and drugs. Approximately \$32 billion in profits tempts criminals across communities to seek their prey. The Violence Against Women Act in Congress has been only one of several efforts to close loopholes and write laws to help law enforcement deal more effectively with this elusive internet- assisted problem. Gullible teens and women looking for "friends," may be marks.

The national League is encouraging state and local Leagues to educate the public, as the Salt Lake League plans to do on September 10 from 6-8 p.m. at the Girl Scout Building, 445 E. 4500 South, Salt Lake City. A League committee chaired by Luciane Fangulua is developing a panel discussion by leaders including Rep. Sandra Hollins, D-Salt Lake, and

New League Office Hours

Starting August 24, the League's office hours will be Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Trixi will still be on hand for occasional afternoon meetings and events as needed. If you need to reach her outside of the posted hours please phone or send an email. The office may still always be used any time of day.

Contact Trixi
lwwut@xmission.com to make arrangements.

Fire Captain Fernando Rivero, who lectures on human trafficking and is a trainer to local agencies. Please come and learn more.



Bad Data Makes it Hard To Study Water

by Marilyn O'Dell, Weber Basin Study Committee

Sometimes new information comes at a terrible time. Just as we thought we knew where to find out how much water we are using, the "Performance Audit of Projections of Utah's Water Needs" was released. The newspapers were suddenly full of stories about the inaccuracies of Utah's figures on water use.

When the Davis County League voted to do a study of water in the Weber Basin and asked the Weber County League to join them we had no idea this audit was being finished. Ann Johnson of the Davis League volunteered to chair the study and has done a fabulous job of taking the new information in stride and keeping us on track.

Since state water agencies are our major sources of information we decided we had little choice but to proceed using the state's published data, but to preface the study with the findings of the audit and the statement that the figures might need to be revised. The Legislature so far has not made any decisions about what action will be required of state agencies. Meanwhile, our committee has read the audit and met with Zach Frankel of the Utah Rivers Council, who has major objections to the state's data, and with Weber Basin Conservancy District's Director, who has questions about the data in the audit.

There's agreement on some things. There is no argument about the fact that Weber River Basin has a large number of residential lots with unmetered secondary water systems. According to the audit, per capita residential outdoor water use in the Weber River Basin is 122 gallon per capita per day (gpcd) compared to the Jordan River's (Salt Lake County) 85 gpcd. Tage Flint, director of the Weber Basin Conservancy District, told a June Interim Legislative Committee that all these secondary connections will be metered before the Bear River Project, which would bring added water to the Wasatch Front from the Bear River Basin, is implemented.

Our committee has finished the first draft and plans to present the final study to our League Boards by October. The existing state League consensus seems to cover our concerns. We do plan to hold educational meetings with our League members before the end of the year and with the general public next spring.

How do I...submit photos I took at LWV events?

We are often asked to submit photos from our events which are used locally and nationally.

Events might include parades, tabling at farmers markets, naturalization ceremonies, anniversaries and special gatherings.

Images for office use or for the website should be sent to lwvut@xmission.com

Weber Joins Davis at Annual Meeting

by Ann Johnson, Publicity Co-Chair, Davis County League

The Davis County League chose new officers at its annual meeting May 28 at the home of Nickie Nelson. Nelda Bishop and Kathleen Stockel were re-elected as co-presidents, Peggy Carrico will be secretary/treasurer, Meagan Lang and Ann Johnson will be publicity co-chairs and Nancy Cooper and Nickie Nelson will share the program chairmanship.



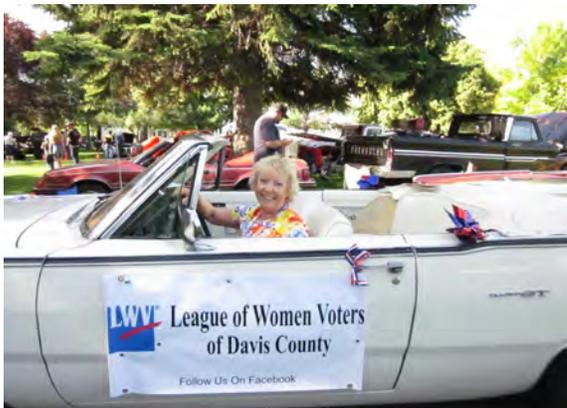
Tina Hose presented training on the LWVUS initiative for Member and Leadership Development (MLD). Nickie Nelson presented information on the Legislative Corps and meetings held during the legislative interim. Since the meeting, Nickie has provided training for two new members to access information from both the legislature's website and

the state LWV website.

Terri McCullough and Marilyn O'Dell from the Weber County League joined us for the evening. Our two leagues will join forces this year to conduct a study of Weber Basin water supply and measures to conserve, protect, and increase our water resources for a growing population. We plan to present our findings to the general public next spring.

Davis League Worked Crowds All Summer

By Ann Johnson, Publicity Co-Chair, Davis County League



LWV-Davis entered a 1969 Dodge Dart convertible, owned by Nicola Nelson, in the parade and car show sponsored by the Bountiful Rotary Club "Coats for Kids Car Show" June 19 and 20. League members rode in the car parade Friday afternoon, showed the car and talked to attendees. We distributed 70 fans with League information to interested

Utah Voter Schedule

The 2015-16 publication schedule for the next Utah Voter was set at the May board meeting of the Utah League. Below are the months the Voter will publish followed by the submission deadline for each date.

Articles for publication should be sent to votermaterials@gmail.com with the specific topic in the subject line. Please include your official title as author. Photos should be sent in a separate email.

September: August 14
October: September 11
November: October 16
December: None
January: December 11
February: January 15
March: February 12
April: March 11
May: April 15
June: May 13

persons. The big surprise was when our entry received the prize for “Best Make-Out Car.”

Our monthly planning meeting was held at 10 a.m., Saturday, July 11, at 3238 S. 675 W in Bountiful. We finalized plans for our August 27 Education Meeting and September Voter Registration effort.

West Bountiful City invited LWV-Davis to sponsor a Meet the Candidates meeting Monday, July 20, to introduce the seven candidates for City Council to voters: James Ahlstrom, James Bruhn, Alan Malan, Debbie McKean, Scott Strong, and Andrew Williams. Primary voting began July 28 in West Bountiful.

Weber League Works on Diversity, Equal Opportunity

by Terri McCullough, LWV-Weber president

The Weber County League has been active this summer on the Diversity Connection Committee sponsored by Weber State University. The group is working towards ways of celebrating and integrating the many rich cultures we have in the Ogden area. Adrienne Andrews, director of cultural diversity at Weber State, is spearheading the project. She and her team have met with a total of about 20 different groups - LDS church, NAACP, LGBT, Hispanic, Jewish, Women, etc. The same questions were posed to each group at each meeting concerning issues with all groups working together as one. This resulted in an objective of the group that opportunities, information, political office, etc. should be attainable by all regardless of race or religion. We are currently working on how to meet that objective through different projects. We are very excited to be a part of this challenge - one that would definitely benefit our community.

The Weber League recently was invited to the Ogden Police National Night Out Against Crime to register voters. With the DMV and online registration, we had forgotten how much fun it is to go out into the community. We did very well, got two new potential members to recruit, and had fun with the police department. Excellent turn out by the neighborhood as well.

Fall Fete Honoree Named

by Nancy Wingelaar, Voter Services co-director, LWV-SL

Sue Lind, longtime League member and State of the Community Luncheon Chair, will be the honoree at the annual Fall Fete on Saturday September 26. The event will be held at the home of Nancy Young, another longtime League member and member of the State of the

Save the Date for Fall Fete

Date: Saturday Sept. 26

Time: 3-5 p.m.

Place: [2722 Eagle Way](#),
SLC

Suggested Donation: \$45

To RSVP, call the League
office,
801-272-8683
to leave a message with the
number of guests.

Community Luncheon Committee. We will gather from 3 to 5 p.m. to celebrate with appetizers, beverages and an art show.

Raised in Berkeley, California, Sue headed to Utah to study political science and French but ended up at Seattle University where she studied Medical Record Science and minored in the philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas.

She and husband Karl Lind raised four children while he practiced dentistry. They were active in the horse world and owned a ranch in Kamas. They now own a working cattle ranch in Ruby Valley, Nevada.

Sue has worked with the League for many years and is best known for her years of service as State of the Community Luncheon chair where she corrals prominent speakers, honorees, and committee members -- all while managing the herd -- which in the end produces this important Salt Lake League fundraising event.

In addition to Sue's League activities, she is the executive director of Wheeler Farm Friends Board and has been chair of the University of Utah International Community Council.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Amy Feller	Midvale 84047
Nancy Green	Salt Lake City 84103
Amy "AJ" Schanfield	West Valley 84128

Julie Fillmore retired three years ago after working for 29 years as an RN with the Primary Children's Hospital in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. She earned her degree in nursing from the Fairview Hospital School of Nursing, Augsburg College in Minneapolis. Originally from Sauk Rapids, Michigan, Julie has called Salt Lake her home since 1976. She is a volunteer for the Natural History Museum in the First People exhibit and participates in the museum's Traveling Treasures program. She was a longtime member of Junior League. Julie enjoys travel, hiking, mushrooming, skiing and taking classes through the University's Osher program. She joined the League of Women Voters because she believes it is part of her civic duty to be informed and participate. She is especially concerned and interested in the public education system in our state.

Save the Date **SL New, Prospective Member Orientation**

Plan to attend a delightful social and orientation meeting Tuesday, October 20 at 5 p.m.. 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 League.

The social begins at 5 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 Jeris Johnson 801-274-1234 or jerisj@nf100.com

Jo Lynn Wilson has lived in the Val Verda area of Bountiful for 47 years and raised her four daughters there. Professionally, Jo Lynn is a research psychologist. In 2001, she retired from the education department at Hansen Planetarium, where she developed teaching materials and methods. A certified master gardener, Jo Lynn volunteers to help other gardeners in the area. She believes the basic needs for human survival—air, water, and soil—are being sacrificed because of a single-minded focus on the economy. To make the point that our communities too often prioritize short-term interests rather than preserving what we need for human survival, she uses the analogy of astronauts on a spaceship removing the oxygen tanks in order to create space for more bedrooms. Jo Lynn’s particular interest is encouraging the preservation of agricultural land in Davis County.

Fight for Voting Rights Continues Today

by Elisabeth MacNamara, President, League of Women Voters

Ninety-five years ago today, [a single vote in the Tennessee legislature guaranteed that the 19th Amendment](#) securing women the right to vote would, at last, become law. The story of Harry Burn, a young legislator who [honored a request from his mother](#) to change his vote, is well known. With Burn’s vote, decades of organizing and advocacy came to a close, and women’s right to vote was won – not just for the women who had worked tirelessly for equal rights, but for all women in the U.S.

In just a little more than a year after [Congress approved the 19th Amendment](#), the dream of equal access to the polls was nearing reality. During that time, not only had 36 states ratified the Amendment, but [Carrie Chapman Catt](#), leader of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, founded the League of Women Voters to “finish the fight” because ratification of the Amendment did not automatically guarantee that 23 million new women voters could or would vote. The fight Catt charged us with continues today, and the League continues to fight to ensure that every eligible voter has free and fair access to the polls.

What happened after the 19th Amendment became law? [View our slideshow and learn about the long drive to get the remaining 24 states to ratify the amendment.](#)

The trajectory of American history has always been to greater not less freedom for our citizens. The 19th Amendment opened the democratic process to what is now more than half the population. But the work of democracy is never finished. The League began as a “mighty political experiment” to encourage new women voters to use their vote to shape public policy in a way that improved the lives of women and children. From the beginning, the League has sought to strengthen our democracy by empowering voters to engage with their government and to tackle the most important issues in our communities, states and nation.



Voting Rights Act Turns 50

It is the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act. Voting is the key to ensuring both local and national issues are decided by everyone not just a few.

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

Non-Profit Org
US POSTAGE PAID
Permit #1716

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