



<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](mailto:lwvut@xmission.com)

January 2016

## Healthy Communities Present Challenge



by Lola Britton, president LWV Utah

In November I had an opportunity to join a call with President Obama during which the Healthy Communities Challenge was discussed. I want to share with you some of the statistics about Utah I learned during this phone call.

Since 2010 the uninsured rate across the country has been reduced by 45 percent. There are still 10.5 million people eligible for coverage who remain uninsured. As of

June 30, 2015, 126,784 people in Utah were covered through the Health Insurance Exchange or Marketplace. In Utah, the adult uninsured rate dropped from 15.6 percent in 2013 to 13.2 percent in the first half of 2015. Tax credits matter: in 2015, 66 percent of Utah's Marketplace enrollees – 83,155 people – received a tax credit, and consumers saved an average of \$209 per month.

Salt Lake City is one of the 20 areas participating in the "Healthy Communities Challenge." In Salt Lake City and the surrounding region, there are still 137,000 uninsured who are eligible for insurance through Marketplace. While progress has been made, more work is needed to cover the uninsured. Having more people with health care coverage lowers costs for both consumers and taxpayers.

Reports in both the *Salt Lake Tribune* and *Deseret News* show gains of Utahns signing up for health care plans. It's been the busiest month for navigators in the three years since the federal marketplaces launched.

Thirty-one percent of Utah's population is under the age of 18 (in 2012 Utah had the youngest population in the nation). Young people are are

### INSIDE:

Crime Panel/2

Legislative Action/3

Rock the Voter/4-5

Las Vegas Pipeline/6

MLD/6-7

Campaign Finance/8-9

Citizen Lobby/9-10

State Convention/10-11

Community Luncheon/11

R.A.M.P./12

Davis News/12

Legislative Forum/13

Supreme Court/13

Olene Walker/14-15

New Members/15-16

Unit Meetings/last page

among the least insured in the state. Yet preventive health is very important because it pays off in the long run not only for the individual but also for society.

Whether Utah chooses to expand Medicaid coverage in 2016 or not, costs can be reduced if more people become insured and able to have regular checkups by their health care provider.

Enrollment at [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) is open until January 31 for coverage to begin February 1.

---

## **Smart on Crime Panel Discussion in February**

by **Kathy Fitzgerald, Development Director, LWV Utah**

Do you remember the 1980s when politicians vied to see who could be toughest on crime? They mandated ever-longer prison sentences for ever more trivial, non-violent crimes, no matter the social or monetary costs.

A surprising convergence of forces made it possible to change that direction in Utah. Developers and others wanted to redevelop the current site of the state prison. Politicians recognized that continued growth of the prison population is expensive, and the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice had studied best practices in corrections for decades. The Legislature created the Prison Relocation and Development Committee (PRADA) bringing these stakeholders together to study where to relocate the state prison. The LWVUT closely monitored all PRADA meetings over a two-year period covering 2013-2014, resulting in its study, *Relocation of the Utah State Prison at Draper* in January of 2014 (<http://lwwutah.org/Studies/PrisonStudy1-13-2014.pdf>).

Out of these discussions came a determination not only to move the prison, but also to reform the criminal justice system to reduce the prison population. To that end in March, 2015, the Legislature passed HB 348, the Criminal Justice Reinvestment Act, which makes major changes in criminal justice philosophy and procedures. Among other things, it

- reduces or removes prison sentences for minor drug and vehicle offenses,
- requires revision of sentencing and release guidelines for probation and parole,
- requires establishment of alternative treatments for mental illness and substance abuse, and
- requires more monitoring and support of people on parole or probation.

HB 348 went into effect on October 1, 2015. Our questions now are, “How is it working?” “What changes can we see on the ground?” The

### **Local League Presidents**

**Davis County**  
**Nelda Bishop**

[nelda@xmission.com](mailto:nelda@xmission.com)  
& **Kathy Stockel**  
[khs\\_nodak@yahoo.com](mailto:khs_nodak@yahoo.com)

**Grand County**  
**Barbara Hicks**

[barbmhicks@gmail.com](mailto:barbmhicks@gmail.com)

**Salt Lake**  
**Janice Gygi**

[janice.gygi@uvu.edu](mailto:janice.gygi@uvu.edu)  
& **Kathy Biele**  
[howze@xmission.com](mailto:howze@xmission.com)

**Weber County**

**Terri McCulloch**  
[terrimcculloch@aol.com](mailto:terrimcculloch@aol.com)

purpose of our panel is to hear answers from personnel directly involved in these changes. We are fortunate to have the following eminent people join our panel:

Ron Gordon, Executive Director, Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ)

Sheriff James O. Tracy, Utah County, President of the Utah Sheriffs' Association

Mark Thomas, County Attorney, Uintah County

Kent Hart, Executive Director of the Utah Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

Geri Miller Fox, Division Director, Adult Probation and Parole, Utah Department of Corrections

Note that this panel represents the spectrum of criminal justice processes: the arresting officer, the prosecuting attorney, the defense attorney and the parole and probation officer. Ron Gordon (CCJJ) will be able to give us an overview of how HB 348 affects the system. Please join us for this informative discussion.

*Smart on Crime: A Panel Discussion on HB 348, the Criminal Justice Reinvestment Act*

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 11

Time: 6:30 p.m. (Social hour beginning at 6:00)

Place: Girl Scouts of Utah Offices, 445 E. 4500 South, Salt Lake City

---

## You Can Help Our Legislative Action

by **Nickie Nelson, Legislative Action co-director**

Do you dread those dreary winter days of February and early March? Well, maybe the League can help. Things will be lively at the Capitol when the Legislature goes into session, beginning January 25 and continuing for 45 calendar days until March 10. Not only do Standing Committees meet, and the House and Senate go into session daily, but all sorts of groups hold rallies and events, and put out displays in the rotunda. And of course the League meets for lunch to discuss the latest developments every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Capitol cafeteria.

League members attend committee meetings and Senate and House sessions, and write up their findings to email to members of the League Legislative Corps with information we need to take League action. We would love to have you join us and will mentor you if you have never attended a committee meeting or session. You can join the Leg Corps and be on the email list by contacting Trixi Sieger at the League office by phone (801-272-8683) or email at [lwwut@xmission.com](mailto:lwwut@xmission.com).

Three specific League events at the Capitol are planned: "In the Know about the Legislature" will be presented at noon on the first day of the

## Utah League

**President**

**Lola Britton**

[lolabritton@comcast.net](mailto:lolabritton@comcast.net)

**Executive Director**

**Emeritus**

**Sandy Peck**

[sandypeck@xmission.com](mailto:sandypeck@xmission.com)

**Office Manager**

**Trixi Sieger**

[lwwut@xmission.com](mailto:lwwut@xmission.com)

session, Monday, January 25 in the Multipurpose Room, which is on the first floor of the Capitol. This will be repeated for the University of Utah OSHER group and League members at noon on Friday, January 29 in the same room. Also, don't forget to attend the League's 96th birthday celebration at noon on Friday, February 12, in the Olmstead Room in the Senate Building. Two legislators will be there to update us about legislative happenings.

Remember, you can also listen to committee meetings and House and Senate sessions in real time or after the meeting or session on Utah's award-winning legislative site, [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov). If you need help in learning how to do this, call one of us and we will walk you through the very simple steps. We can also provide this training to your League unit.

Your participation in your legislature's proceedings makes a difference, and is a fascinating, educational experience. Come join us!  
Nickie Nelson, 801-231-7326, [nickie.nelson@gmail.com](mailto:nickie.nelson@gmail.com)  
Vickie Samuelson, 801-250-9210, [vsam0236@gamil.com](mailto:vsam0236@gamil.com)

---

## Consider the Women's State Legislative Council

The Women's State Legislative Council has been busy preparing for the new biennium. The WSLC holiday social was held December 2 at the Alta Club and was attended by many council members and a few spouses. The work of the council will shift into high gear when the legislative session opens on January 25, 2016. Members will attend weekly meetings each Wednesday during the session to hear both parties' sides of pending legislation. Of particular interest to the LWV-SL committee members who worked tirelessly on the Right-to-Die consensus study (chaired by Vickie Samuelson) is Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck's HB39 (Utah's Death with Dignity Act). We hope it will be among the issues the WSLC will have a chance to hear and learn more about at one of the weekly meetings. Membership in the WSLC continues to grow and new members are welcome, including members of the LWV-SL. The work of the council dovetails beautifully with the work of the LWV. Please give membership a thought and contact Carol Jenson at 801-550-0250 or email [cjensonthebat@comcast.net](mailto:cjensonthebat@comcast.net) for more information.

—Carol Jenson



---

## Join Us to 'Rock the Vote'

During February and March of 2016, League volunteers will go into senior high school government classrooms in Salt Lake County to present a 45-minute interactive experience on how and why to vote.

## Visit our New Office

We are happy to announce our new League of Women Voters office location! We are now located at 314 West Broadwa, SLC 84101 above Caputo's Deli. When visiting the office, please enter the double doors located between Carlucci's Bakery and Caputo's east of the main parking lot. Both the bakery and deli are very busy and they cannot spare employees to help us enter, so please call my cell phone or the office phone if you need assistance getting to the office. There is a code pad for the stairwell but the freight elevator is open for use without locks. In the hallway leading to the office outside the elevator there are two file cabinets, one for Voter Services materials and one for Naturalization Materials. Watch for open house details soon and please feel free to stop by!

Call Trixi 801-835-4644/cell  
801-272-8683/office



- Why spring 2016? Because young people will have their first opportunity to vote for president of the United States the following fall, and because March 23 will be the 45th anniversary of the day that Congress proposed the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that lowered the voting age to 18 from 21.
- How will I know what to present? Come to a training and orientation session in January 2016. Pick a date, the second or third Thursday, January 14 or 21, from 2-4 p.m. at the Salt Lake County Building, 2001 South State St. We will teach "Democracy Classroom", developed by Rock the Vote. For a preview, go to: <http://www.rockthevote.com/get-involved/democracy-class/> (You will need to give your name and fill in the starred boxes only.)
  - What's in the lesson? Students will view a video of the history of voting and discuss issues in their everyday lives that might get better if they voted their views. They will hold a mock election and reflect on how and why to get politically involved in their communities.
  - Who will train me? Experienced high school teacher and League activist, Marilyn Bown, will take us through the curriculum. Board member Luana Chilelli will refresh our sensitivity skills and County Clerk Sherrie Swenson will orient us to the voting and elections processes young people most need to know.
  - Where will I present the lesson? Government Teachers from East (SLC), Brighton (Canyons) and West Valley (Jordan) High Schools are already scheduling class times for our volunteers to engage their students. Our school liaison Carol Jensen is also contacting Cottonwood, Murray and West High Schools.
  - Who will go with me to present? Each team will consist of a team lead and one or two helpers. The classroom teacher is also expected to help lead the class.

If you love working with young people and want to engage them in the democratic process, please sign up for an orientation and training session this January. Please respond by January 6 by calling or emailing

— **Carole Straughn, Voter Services Co-Chair, LWV-SL**  
405-590-6982  
[carolefs222@gmail.com](mailto:carolefs222@gmail.com)

## Why Youth Voting Matters

**Voting is habit-forming:** when young people learn the voting process and vote they are more likely to do so when they are older. If individuals have been motivated to get to the polls once, they are more likely to return. So, getting young people to vote early could be key to raising a new generation of voters.

*from CIRCLE (The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement), Youth Voting.*  
<http://www.civicyouth.org/quick-facts/youth-voting/>

## League of Women Voters Fights Las Vegas Pipeline

The Salt Lake League has reconfirmed its commitment to fighting the Las Vegas pipeline. Specifically, the League has submitted a second affidavit describing the many League positions that apply to the water diversion and our individual members' interests and concerns about the ensuing damage to the area. Linda Johnson, past president of the LWV-SL, had already done this for the original suit against the BLM's approval of a pipeline to carry water to Las Vegas, but evidently we needed to write another. Of course much of her language still remains in the document. This time our current president Janice Gygi signed the most recent affidavit.

The purpose of the declaration is to prove that we have legal standing to participate in the lawsuit. I think we do. The League joins White Pine County, Nevada; the Great Basin Water Network; two Western Shoshone Tribes and many other political entities and organizations in this protest of the pipeline.

We failed in the first round. The Bureau of Land Management has granted permission for the pipeline's construction. We are appealing that decision and asking for "declarative and conjunctive relief" whatever that might be.

The LWV of Salt Lake has been protesting this Las Vegas "water grab" for some time. We should thank Linda Johnson and past board members for their perseverance on this issue. I was told that it was very helpful for the League to support the suit. The League is a valued ally because we have a reputation for careful study and well-crafted positions and therefore do not simply join a cause because it is momentarily popular. And we are truly grassroots. Judges and lawyers find us credible.

— *Ann O'Connell, Natural Resources Director LWV-SL*

---

## League to Engage rather than Recruit

by **Tina Hose, State MLD Coordinator**

A new year brings New Year's resolutions. At this time, it is customary to review last year's good fortune and hardship, success and failure and consider what worked and what didn't, then with resolve, plan for a better year ahead. Where Membership Leadership Development (MLD) is concerned, the National League suggests a 2016 resolution that has already proven effective in volunteer organizations.

For 2016 try this new thought: *Engagement versus recruitment*. Word choice is important. It is not semantics, but an indication of the speaker's frame of reference. Understanding this, for example, we are careful to describe the League as "non-partisan" rather than "bi-partisan."

*Engagement versus recruitment* is not a call to use a different word, but

## Volunteer for MLD

Does helping an organization develop its potential give you a grin?

Does developing a relationship and having stimulating conversations with brilliant, interesting women make you proud?

This and more is what a Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) coach can get from coaching a local league.

Local League coaches are not on their own. They have a strong support system. After a half-day start-up training session, coaches receive monthly best-practice updates and coaching tips by email from the LWVUS. In addition, on a monthly conference call with our national coach, all coaches exchange local league success stories and hear what's new with the LWVUS and the best practices in today's nonprofit world. Coaches then take those practices and ideas to their assigned local league for consideration. Time commitment, including training and development and engage three hours a month.

**Call State MLD Coordinator Tina Hose to explore this opportunity 801-582-0467. We would love to have you on our MLD Coaching Team!**

rather a call to change our approach.

The implication of recruitment is that it puts the need of the organization first. We recruit new leaders and new members because the organization needs them to serve institutional purposes. Recruitment is akin to what the military does – recruiting a force to sustain itself.

Engagement is a different concept. The notion of engagement is that the focus is on the person. When people want to engage they put themselves in places that make them visible and available. There is an aspect of mutual benefit in the concept of engagement as the relationship becomes the focus. Organizations recruit. People engage.

Relationships can't be forced or rushed. They must be permitted to develop and deepen into greater commitment. It is only after establishing a relationship that greater commitment of time and talent emerge. There is a difference, when developing membership and leadership, between asking people to participate and getting to know them and helping them understand how they will find personal satisfaction in engaging with the League. For the League this means we should seek to understand the ways in which people get personal satisfaction from engagement with us and then be in those places, hold those events and provide the information that will appeal to them.

In *The New Breed: Understanding and Equipping the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Volunteer*, authors McGee and McGee (2012) suggest that engagement is similar to dating:

**First Date:** An opportunity to attend a timely and topical League event open to the public, encourage questions about the League, allow the individual to gather information, create enough interest and access for a second date.

**Second Date:** Listen to interests, to what kind of positive experience is wanted or sought through the League, where/how people want to make a difference. This is building the relationship for future engagement and helps in securing a future date.

**Future Dates:** Individuals' early experiences with the League determine whether they will become members and whether or not they stay. Understand that "no" doesn't mean "never." Ensuring that members are engaged with the League in ways that *they* find interesting and exciting leads to better events, a more positive League and a more impactful organization.

As we head into the new year remember *engagement* refers not only to potential new members but to current members as well. Local League Coaches can provide tools to identify your League's interests, methods for sharing topical information and strategies for creating and fostering relationships. If you are not already engaged with your local league coach, contact State MLD Coordinator Tina Hose 801-582-0467 for information.

## League Meetings on Money in Politics

Salt Lake members who missed their unit meetings on the Money in Politics Study have another chance to participate in the discussion. The Town Club unit will discuss the topic January 13.

The Davis County League has scheduled its meeting on Money in Politics for Saturday, January 9 at the South Metro Fire Station, 255 S. 100 West, Bountiful.

## SLC Council Passes Revised Campaign Finance Reform

by Gigi Brandt, LWV-UT Vice President for Programs

Just as local leagues in Utah were studying money in politics at the federal level, the Salt Lake City Council was finishing its deliberations on revising its campaign finance laws. Though revising campaign finance laws was a council priority for 2015, they waited until the last council meeting of the year to act.



The Salt Lake League worked with Move to Amend of Utah to persuade the Salt Lake City Council to lower the individual campaign contribution limit to \$500 for council candidates, to \$1,000 for mayoral races and to forbid contributions from organizations, including corporations. These limits would be

in line with other limits imposed by cities of the same size.

However, after much discussion the council decided to impose limits instead of \$750 for City Council, \$3,750 for mayor and not to ban corporate and union contributions. They did not deal with the disposition of funds left in campaign coffers after the election, but did enact an ordinance (similar to the one in Salt Lake County) to restrict contributions from those conducting business with the city. The rationale for allowing unlimited contributions from for-profit and nonprofit corporations seemed to be that if they were totally banned, the money would shift to political action committees (PACs) and super-PACs which are regulated by the state and would become less transparent.

Perhaps that is a valid concern in light of Utah's recent grade of F in political financing from the Center for Public Integrity. They also considered that sometimes ordinances have had unintended consequences. The council passed an ordinance providing for transition funds in the future.

### Salt Lake, Seattle and Maine

Doing research on Salt Lake Council and mayoral campaigns was very interesting, I went to Salt Lake City's Campaign Finance Reporting system on the web at <http://bit.ly/1ToQalo>. People can find similar information about their own city and county elections. The information was very revealing about contributors. In the absence of public financing, the fact is that very few citizens contribute to candidates in local council races.

In a recent column in *The New York Times*, columnist Thomas Edsall wrote that the Citizen's United decision has made reformers look to innovations at the local and state level. <http://nyti.ms/1NVaqHB>

In the November elections, Seattle and Maine had successful public



### 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>

campaign finance initiatives. Seattle just passed an initiative which puts into place a system giving every voter a \$100 voucher to give to local candidates. The vouchers can be redeemed by candidates for cash to be spent on their campaign expenses. The initiative also lowered contribution limits and banned contributions from large city contractors or persons or entities that spend more than \$5,000 a year on paid lobbyists. The cost of the voucher system was estimated to be \$3 million annually.

The Maine initiative reformed Maine's public financing provisions by modifying a matching fund system. When a self-funding candidate or outside group spends big in a race other candidates under the public financing could continue to collect \$5 checks and qualify for further grants. It also required all express political advertising by outside groups (unions, super PACs or nonprofits), to display the group's name and the top three donors, and required gubernatorial transition and inaugural committees to disclose donors as well. Maine also increased penalties for violations of the campaign finance law.

Can Utah citizens have success in limiting big money in politics? The state does not regulate super-PACs (other than registration). Past attempts to limit political contributions in the one-party-dominated Utah Legislature have failed. And the stringent, almost prohibitive, requirements for citizen initiatives pose high barriers for citizen reformers. As Move to Amend discovered in 2012, state law blocked their initiative from going on the ballot.

League members may wish to choose an update on our state campaign financing system for the 2016 LWV program.

---

## Ms. Samuelson Goes to Washington

In early December the ACLU sent me to Washington, D.C., for Sentencing Reform Lobby Day, hosted by the ACLU, Interfaith Criminal Justice Coalition and the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. I met five other people from Utah when I got there. Our charge was to meet with our state representatives and to advocate in favor of S. 2123 Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act 2015. We had a breakfast briefing at the United Methodist Building where Sen. Mike Lee shared with us the reasons to support this bill, then met with the Utah group for photos and more discussion on the bill. The League does have a position on Sentencing Policy.



Every group was assigned to a person who could get us around the Hill and not get lost. We went to the offices of all our Utah congressional delegation and talked to our representative/staff if available. We did meet Rep. Jason Chaffetz and Sen. Lee. Except

## Salt Lake League Winter Social

On December 7, 2015, the League of Women Voters Salt Lake had their Holiday Social. We had a potluck dinner that was very good including the desserts. Oh, and let's not forget the beverages.

Our charity this year was the First Step House.

Shawn McMillen, Executive Director, was our speaker. First Step House is a specialty substance use disorder treatment provider.

Our attendance was 42, and we raised an amazing \$825. Thank you to everyone who attended and everyone who donated.

—*Vickie Samuelson, LWVUT  
Director of Health and Human  
Services*

for Sen. Orrin Hatch, they all supported the bill or another bill that was due to be introduced that covered this bill and more. The bill is expected to come up some time in January. After our meetings, we went back to the church to present briefings on our day. I am so excited to have been given this amazing opportunity.

—*Vickie Samuelson, Co-Director Legislative Corps. LWV-UT*

*Note from the editor:* Like Vicki, those of us who have engaged in it know that acting as a citizen lobbyist is a valuable experience. Meeting with one's elected officials in their offices and walking the halls of Congress can be exhilarating for those of us who care about representative government. It's just the kind of activity that could thrill a League member. More than that, calling on Utah officials in Washington will help keep the League and its positions in the minds of our elected officials as they go about doing the people's business. Please contact your local league president soon if you'd like to go to the National Convention in Washington, D.C., in June and participate in the Utah League's appointments with our representatives.

— *Catherine Weller*



## 2016: Plans Being Made for State Convention

by **Kathy Stockel,**  
**Co-President, LWV Davis**

As I write this article I look out upon a heavy fall of large snowflakes gathering at least 6 inches deep on the tree branches. I realize I'm humming songs of the holidays, and ask myself, "Why am I thinking state Convention instead of being outside playing in the snow?"



A reality check quickly sets me straight. In January we finish the "Money in Politics" study and the 2016 Legislative session begins. Time will then feel like I'm riding a racehorse, and before I take a couple of deep breaths, the official "Call to Convention" will go out to all local leagues. Now is the time to make plans for State Convention, held Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30.

The theme is "Rustic Elegance" and Friday evening's event (dinner and a speaker) will be held in Layton at the Marriott Courtyard hotel. We'll gather

## State Convention to go Wild



Check out the Antelope Island website at <http://stateparks.utah.gov/parks/antelope-island/>

there Friday afternoon for registration. If you choose to stay in Layton, the Marriott Courtyard will have a block of rooms at a special price for our group.

Saturday's meeting will be held on Antelope Island in the Visitor's Center. While we will have access to overhead projectors and other typical meeting technology, the ambiance of Antelope Island is definitely rustic. We should see quite a few species of shore birds as we cross the causeway, and may even see a bison or two as we arrive on the island itself. In next month's Voter, I'll introduce you to several pre- and post-Convention activities (and even a few during Convention hours for family members.) We hope to see you at Convention!

---

### Save the Date: State of the Community Luncheon

Ambassador Christopher R. Hill will be keynote speaker at the 2016 League of Women Voters State of the Community Luncheon at Little America. Mark Tuesday, April 5, 2016, on your calendars.

Ambassador Hill's topic will be "What is in the News Today." He'll draw on his experience in the Foreign Service to elucidate underlying causes of unrest and its implications for U.S. domestic and foreign policy, its effect on political stability and its consequences for future U.S. diplomatic relations.



Ambassador Hill is a former career diplomat, a four-time ambassador nominated by three presidents, whose last post was ambassador to Iraq, April 2009 to August 2010. Previously, he had been ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Poland, and Macedonia. He served as head of the delegation to the Six Party Talks on the North Korean nuclear issue and as a former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs from 2005 to 2009.

He is currently dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver, a position he has held since September 2010. Ambassador Hill is the author of *OUTPOST: a Diplomat at Work: A Memoir by Christopher Hill*. Paperback and hardbound copies of his book will be available at Weller Book Works. Weller Book Works will have a book signing at the Luncheon.

---

### Help LWVUT Go National

The LWVUS National Convention will be held in Washington, D.C., June 2016, and the Utah League wants to send its full complement of representatives. However, it's pricey to attend. The registration fee alone costs close to \$400, the hotel room \$209 per night for at least three nights, and flight at least \$400, for a total of \$1,400, if the attendee doesn't eat. Clearly, this is beyond the pocketbook of many active Leaguers who would otherwise be eager to attend.

Can you help by contributing to the costs of attending? The LWVUT is setting up a restricted fund to receive donations from committed Leaguers who recognize the importance of National's work to state and local Leagues. Please indicate on your donation **"Washington, D.C.**

**fund."** If it's a check, write this on the "For" line; if it's Paypal, write it under "Add special instructions to the seller." Frequent Flyer miles are also welcome. Contact Kathy Fitzgerald to make arrangements: [klrfitzgerald@gmail.com](mailto:klrfitzgerald@gmail.com).

—Kathy Fitzgerald,  
Development Director,  
LWVUT

## Weber League Learns of R.A.M.P.

The October Weber County League meeting centered on the R.A.M.P. (Recreation, Arts, Museums, and Parks) program. George Hall, chairman of the board of directors of R.A.M.P. and owner of MarketStar Corporation,



was the speaker. He led us in a discussion of what the program is and how it is run. It has been very successful in Ogden and has provided opportunities for improvement in recreational areas, as well as giving citizens the opportunity to experience the arts, museums, and parks by funding activities that are free and open to everyone in the county every Saturday in the summer. Hall explained the selection criteria for receiving money, what the budget is, and how reporting is done. Weber County citizens voted to continue funding for the R.A.M.P. program in the last election.

After the October meeting, League members and the public had a much clearer knowledge of the purpose and benefits of having this type of program in Weber County.

—Terri McCullough, President LWV Weber County

---

## Davis League Hears of Upcoming Bills

LWV-Davis enjoyed a Potluck Social at the home of Nicola Nelson and John Logan, Sunday, December 6. Conversation sparkled on topics ranging from politics to current fashions. The highlight of the evening was hearing Rep. Raymond Ward, R-Bountiful, describe the bills he will introduce in the 2016 legislative session and explain the process by which bills are eventually passed into laws or are killed before getting to a full vote by the House.



The next Davis Chapter meeting will be Saturday, January 9 at the South Metro Fire Station, 255 S. 100 West, Bountiful. Nelda Bishop and Kathy Stockel will lead a discussion on the LWVUS study, "Money and Politics." Find the study: <http://lwwutah.org/Studies/2015MoneyinPoliticsStudy.html>

— Ann Johnson, LWV-Davis County

For more information about Weber County's R.A.M.P. program visit its website at <http://www.webercountyutah.gov/ramp/>



## Mark Your Calendar for the Annual Legislative Forum

On Saturday, January 9, 2016, the annual Legislative Forum, sponsored by the Salt Lake and Wasatch Chapters of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Utah and the Salt Lake League of Women Voters, will give the public an opportunity to question a panel of legislators about issues important to our citizens and specific issues for the forthcoming legislative session. Legislators on the panel include House Minority Leader Rep. Brian King, D-Salt Lake; Rep. Sophia DiCaro, (R-West Valley); Sen. Jani Iwamoto, D-Salt Lake; and Sen. Brian Shiozawa, R-Salt Lake. The panel moderator is Janice Gygi, co-president of the Salt Lake League of Women Voters.

The meeting is free and open to the public and will be held at the Girl Scouts of Utah Building, 445 E. 4500 South in Salt Lake City. Light refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m., followed by the panel discussion, 10 a.m.-noon. This is an opportune time to ask your questions on critical issues prior to consideration of bills that will have significant impact on the lives of Utah's citizens.

---

## U.S. Supreme Court Considers Idea of Representation

By Jessica Jones, Grassroots Lobbyist, LWVUS

The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments recently in a case that could forever change the way we view the political map. [Evenwel v. Abbott](#), a case out of Texas, has the potential to upset the criteria for drawing state and local legislative districts so that districts would be determined by the total number of voters instead of total population. This case only affects state legislative districts as Congressional apportionment is covered in a different provision of the Constitution and would not be directly impacted.



Currently, state legislative districts are drawn using data collected by the Census Bureau and are based on the total number of people who live in a community or state. Total population includes not only voters, but also children, non-citizens and unregistered voters. If the plaintiffs in *Evenwel v. Abbott* were to win their argument, state legislative districts across the country

could be unconstitutional and practically [all state legislative maps would need to be redrawn](#). The whole concept of representation would be changed and the influence of minority communities and those districts with significant numbers of children would diminish.

Changing the criteria for how we establish legislative districts in the states



Prepare for the 2016 General Session of the Utah State Legislature by visiting its website. There you'll find information on committees, bills, legislative histories, budget information, and the full session calendar. <http://le.utah.gov/>

would not only have far reaching impacts on equal representation and geographic distribution of power, but it would put many states in limbo for years to come. The last time the Supreme Court considered [the question of representation](#) in the 1960s, it took nearly a decade to settle the matter through the court system. Moreover, there is no reliable measure available to determine the number of voters in a state – the Census directly [counts total population](#) but citizens self-identify on voter registration questions during their surveys, making the data unreliable for so important a purpose. Lawsuits are sure to be filed soon, if a decision in favor of the plaintiffs is reached, in every state across the country challenging district lines

The League submitted [an amicus brief in \*Evenwel\*](#) that supports the current practice of drawing district lines based on population counts. Counting population ensures that every man, woman and child has an equal representation in our democracy. Population counts ensure that everyone has a seat at the table and is simply the fairest way to protect our democracy and ensure equal representation for all. A decision in this case is expected by June 2016.

from League of Women Voters US blog

<http://lww.org/blog/us-supreme-court-considers-idea-representation>

## The League Remembers Olene Walker

At our December board meeting, several were surprised when I mentioned Olene Walker's connections with the Utah League. Most citizens of Utah remember Olene as a legislator, champion of education, Utah lieutenant

governor and Utah's first female governor. I remember all those things with pride, plus her membership in the League of Women Voters.



In fact, my first introduction to Olene was many years ago when she was a member of the Utah League board of directors. At that time she was writing a Utah League education study, meanwhile also working on her advanced degree in education. She left the League when she decided to run for the Legislature and begin her service to the citizens of Utah. I like to think that her League experience provided some good training for her long, distinguished career.

—*Gigi Brandt*

The first time I saw Olene Walker was while she was still a legislator. She



## National League: 95 Years and Stronger than Ever

To celebrate the League's 95th year Making Democracy Work®, we've put together a brief slide show highlighting some of the victories you helped us win in 2015.

[http://participate.lww.org/c/10067/p/salsa/web/comm on/public/content?content\\_item\\_KEY=10201](http://participate.lww.org/c/10067/p/salsa/web/comm on/public/content?content_item_KEY=10201)

came to testify before a committee that I was observing for the League. As soon as she sat down, she spent several minutes making friendly chit-chat with committee members instead of beginning to explain her bill right away, as most sponsors did. I remember wondering, will this blarney convince the committee to vote in her favor? It probably did, and was a great pleasure to watch.

I remember her sterner moments as well when as governor she was fighting for support for reading education. It was the right thing to do. League members, many of whom are former teachers, were especially proud of her for that.

Later, as lieutenant governor in charge of setting rules for voting in Utah, she gathered a committee that I served on to help choose voting machines. The various companies selling the machines brought samples and set them up in a circle in the rotunda, where we could try them out and ask questions. At that point, we were especially concerned about how accessible the new machines would be to voters, especially those with disabilities. Our committee also worked on finding the best way to administer the new motor voter registration law, hoping to increase voter participation. I learned a lot on that committee, thanks to Olene's patience and thoroughness. All Utah voters have benefited, and we will miss her.  
— *Sandy Peck*



Sheila O'Driscoll	Salt Lake City	84108
Elizabeth Weight	West Valley City	84128
Virginia Harry	West Valley City	84120

Meet these Salt Lake League members:

**Deborah Carter-Drain**

4545 Wellington St SLC 84117

801-455-4353 [deborahdrain@yahoo.com](mailto:deborahdrain@yahoo.com)

Deborah is a recently retired environmental scientist. Originally from the western suburbs of Chicago she moved to Montana in 1973 and has lived in Salt Lake since 1989. She spent the past 30 years working for both the public and private sector performing hazardous waste site investigation and



The Utah Foundation published the report, "Voting in Utah: Analyzing Current Options and Future Practices for Utah Voters" this past December. It can be accessed on the Utah Foundation's website at <http://bit.ly/1miVVXu>

cleanup. She is a member of the Citizens Climate Lobby and the Conservation Chair for the Great Salt Lake Audubon. Her passion is conservation of our natural resources. In her free time she gets outside as much as possible, whether it's to garden, hike, herd sheep with her border collie, or to just sit quietly and listen. She joined the League due to their commitment to the environment, and is looking forward to working on environmental issues.

**David S Folland, MD**

8810 S Sheffield Way Sandy 84093

(m)801-891-7152 dsfolland@gmail.com

David is a retired medical doctor and co-leader of the Salt Lake City Chapter of Citizen's Climate Lobby (CCL) which is developing the political will for a livable world and currently focused on getting a federal price on carbon sources with return of revenues to households. He was born in Hempstead, NY, and moved to Salt Lake with his family at the age of 16. He received a BA in Molecular Biology from the University of Utah and MD from Cornell University Medical College. David co-founded a pediatric practice in Sandy, Mountain View Pediatrics which became the Intermountain Medical group when purchased by IHC in 1995. He loves nature, including hiking, biking, traveling and snorkeling. David joined the LWV because we support federal legislation to address climate change. He hopes the LWV and CCL can support each other and collaborate in those areas of common interest, and is willing to serve as a resource for the League based on his lobbying experience with CCL.

**Get Social with Us**

Follow the Utah League on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVUT> and remember to

like our page to see updates in your feed.

You can also follow the Utah League on Twitter at

<https://twitter.com/lwvutah>



KARREN | HENDRIX | STAGG | ALLEN  
COMPANY

A Professional Corporation

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

### JANUARY UNIT MEETINGS: RIGHT TO DIE

**TOWN CLUB UNIT** – Wednesday, Jan. 13, 11 a.m.  
Money in Politics  
February 10, 2016 - Right to Die  
Town Club - 1081 East South Temple  
Unit Leader – Alice Steiner – 801-363-9193  
[akarsteiner@aol.com](mailto:akarsteiner@aol.com)

**GIRL SCOUT UNIT** – Monday, Jan. 25 -11 a.m.–12:30  
p.m.  
Girl Scout Headquarters, 445 E. 4500 South  
Unit Leader: Anne Zeigler 801-944-4163  
[abzeigler@centurylink.net](mailto:abzeigler@centurylink.net)

**NITE OWLS** – Monday, Jan. 25 - 7:30 p.m.  
862 East Harrison Ave.  
Unit Leader: Judi Short – 801-487-7387  
[judi.short@gmail.com](mailto:judi.short@gmail.com)

**BENCH BUNCH** – Wednesday, Jan. 27 - 10 a.m.  
Holladay Library  
Unit Leader: Nancy Melling 801-277-9118  
[ngmelling2@gmail.com](mailto:ngmelling2@gmail.com)

**WEST SIDE UNIT** – Wednesday, Jan. 27 - 6 -8 p.m.  
Town@Hunter Village Clubhouse,  
6869 Bamburgh Way, WVC  
Unit Leader – Vickie Samuelson – 801-250-9210  
[vsam0236@gmail.com](mailto:vsam0236@gmail.com)

**SANDY UNIT** – Thursday, Jan. 28 – 10-11:30 a.m.  
Sandy Senior Citizens Center – 9310 So.1300 East  
Unit Leader - Janice Gygi - 801-550-3585  
[janice.gygi@uvu.edu](mailto:janice.gygi@uvu.edu)

**LIBRARY UNIT** – Thursday, Jan. 29 - 12:30 p.m.  
Anderson-Foothill Library - 1135 S. 2100 East  
Co-Unit Leaders- Kathy Fitzgerald – 801-521-5790,  
Carole Straughn – 801-590-6982,  
Joyce Barnes – 801-278-2296