



<http://www.lwvutah.org>

The League of Women
Voters of Utah

230 W. 200 South, Suite
#2114 Salt Lake City, UT
84101

(801) 272-8683

Email:
office@lwvutah.org

Follow us on [Facebook](#) &
Twitter @LWVUtah

March 2020



Proud League Has Changed, Strengthened

By Terri McCulloch, LWV-Weber President

On February 11, the Weber County League was recognized for the 100th anniversary of the League by the Ogden City Council. The looks on the council members' faces said it all – they knew who we were, they felt comfortable with us, and they looked at us with respect. What a great feeling to be part of an organization that garners that type of response.

On my way home, I started thinking about how long I had been in the

INSIDE:

Day of Action/p2-4

Lifetime Members/p4

Centennial Rally/p4-5

Vote411/p5

SLAC Fundraiser/p6

SL Observer Corps/p5-6

Weber &
Homelessness/p6-8

League-At-Large/p8

LWV on Climate/p8-9
Convention/p9

Community Lunch/p10



KARREN | HENDRIX | STAGG | ALLEN
COMPANY
A Professional Corporation

League, what has changed, and how our local League has developed. My first year of teaching, my friend and colleague Margaret Rostkowski took me to a meeting. It was in the basement of the Eccles Art Center. I don't remember the exact topic, but I know I was definitely interested. I joined the League and began my now 40 year membership. I got involved in activities, and as we all know happens, was soon asked to be the Secretary. Then the Treasurer. Then the President. Then the Development Chair for the State. Then the Development Chair for Weber. Then the State President with Pat Braun. Then back to President of Weber. All of these offices gave me such opportunities to be involved with intelligent people doing intelligent things – which I am sure I wasn't when I first started at 22.

Things have changed over the years. We used to have afternoon and evening meetings. We used to register voters at retail stores. We used to tackle at least one study a year on a local level. Members and board members used to spend countless hours doing things for the community in the name of the League. Meetings were usually very well-attended. We moderated many debates. We used to meet at the state office and put together and mail *The Voter* - now it is online. Over time, these things have had to respond to changes in society.

It isn't efficient to have afternoon and evening meetings. We have had to compete with other worthwhile organizations for members' time. We are based on technology.

Some things have not changed. We still are involved with the Legislature. We still conduct state studies. We still register voters – in different venues. We still have meetings on the issues. We still foster friendships with one another. We still have intelligent people involved. We still have an impact on our communities.

Change is necessary but painful. Through it all, we still have an impact and are respected. That is what I saw on the council members' faces – which makes it all worthwhile!

Legislature Honors LWV on Day of Action

By Catherine Weller, LWV-UT Co-President

February 14 is most commonly known as Valentine's Day. However, League members recognize it as the anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters in Chicago. This year, the 14th was especially meaningful because it is the 100th anniversary of the founding of the League. League members throughout the state have been commemorating our Centennial beginning in January and celebrations will continue all year.

The LWV-UT participated in the Women Power the Vote Day of Action at

Local League Presidents

Davis County

Nickie Nelson

davis@lwvutah.org

Grand County

Carey Dabney,

grand@lwvutah.org

Salt Lake

Kathy Biele

president@lwvsl.org

Weber County

Terri McCulloch

weber@lwvutah.org



the Utah State Capitol. We began the morning in the Senate as a citation was awarded to the League for its century of civic service. Eight state League leaders and longtime members of the Legislative Action Committee were invited to stand at the front of the Senate Chamber as the citation sponsored by Sen. Jani Iwamoto and Rep. Paul Ray was read. League



members also stood in the gallery, providing an impressive showing for the senators and their staff.

Following the Senate action, we all went to a reserved spot in the House Gallery to witness the reading of the citation in that body. Members of the House gave the League a standing ovation along with comments of appreciation from Reps. Patrice Arendt and Lawanna Shurtliff. You can find video of the Senate reading [here](#) at 18:20 and the House citation [here](#) at 40:10.

The state League was not finished with its work after receiving the citation. Members of the League greeted senators and representatives in their break rooms during their afternoon break. The League catered a snack for the legislators, gave them League-branded M&Ms, and talked with them about the work that the League does. During that time Emily Walsh, director of the Legislative Action Committee, guided League members through the process of communicating with legislators on timely issues via blue and green notes. At the end of the day, members of the state League board and various local Leagues attended the LWV-Salt Lake rally on the Capitol steps. Finally, the United States flag flown over the Capitol building was flown in honor of the League. The flag and the accompanying document are property of the League of Women Voters of Utah and will be kept in League archives.



Just as the work of the League is never finished in one day, commemoration of the League's Centennial is not confined to one day. The League is sponsoring the performance of a play at Salt Lake Acting Company (SLAC) on March 18 at 6 p.m.. The play - *Four Women Talking*

Utah League Co-Presidents

Vickie Samuelson
& Catherine Weller

presidents@lwvutah.org

Executive Director Emeritus

Sandy Peck

sandypeck@xmission.com

Voter Editors

Charles R. Bernard

Erin Franey

thevoter@lwvutah.org

Office Consultant

Peggy Carrico

office@lwvutah.org

about the Man Beneath the Sheets – was written by local playwright Elaine Jarvik, and explores gender and race while asking what compromises should be made in the pursuit of justice. The performance is sponsored by SLAC and is a fundraiser for the State League, as well as a celebration. You can purchase tickets [here](#). Watch for announcements of more events to come in August to coincide with the anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

LWV Continues Struggle for Empowerment

By Kathy Biele, LWVSL president

The League's 100th Anniversary started out expectantly with sunshine and highs hitting 55 degrees. Then came the wind as temperatures plummeted into the 30s. But standing tall on the steps of the Capitol was a group of



stalwarts, champions of women's rights, rallying with a message for the future.

"We're here to celebrate women's empowerment," said District Attorney Sim Gill.

"Let the State of Utah hear you roar!"

He was one of more than a dozen prominent speakers to call on the League and all citizens to continue the fight for equal rights.

Former Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck considered the color of feminism and how we must learn from the oppressive history of the past — to ensure that "all people in the margins in our community and our country have all barriers removed to the access of franchise...that all mechanisms of voter suppression are destroyed and that expanded access, through tools such as automatic voter registration, designating Election Day as a national holiday, and eliminating voter ID laws are implemented."

Former Congresswoman Karen Shepherd recalled how her own mother was 30 before she could vote. How often we forget that the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote was only ratified in 1920.

As speaker after speaker braved the frigid winds, the message was clear. Councilwoman Ana Valdemoros spoke about being an immigrant who has gone on to fight for the oppressed. Rep. Sandra Hollins talked about how women of color played a significant role even as they were relegated to the back of the march toward enfranchisement. Former Rep. David Irvine

Wanted: Lifetime Members

Have You Belonged to the League since 1970?

League members may not know this, but the LWV-US recognizes members who have belonged to the League for 50 years. (The local League of these members is excused from paying the per-member assessment to LWV-US, by the way.) I feel certain there are Utah members who qualify for this designation. If you have belonged to the League in one or more local Leagues continuously since 1970 or know of others who might qualify, please let the office know by calling 801-272-8683 or by email at office@lwwutah.org.

— **Gigi Brandt, LWV-UT**
Redistricting & Money In
Politics Adviser

spoke apologetically about his vote years ago against the Equal Rights Amendment in Utah. He would not vote that way again and encouraged his colleagues to ratify the amendment.

Our humble thanks goes out to all the speakers and those who raised their hands and signs in support. They also included Sen. Jani Iwamoto, Rep. Jen Dailey-Provost, Mayor Jenny Wilson, Rep. Elizabeth Weight, former Rep. Genevieve Atwood, Deeda Seed of the Center for Biological Diversity, Amy Rich of Fair Utah, and our development director Hope Zitting-Goeckeritz, who is also director of Voterise.

If you haven't read the Salt Lake Tribune article, we recommend it: <http://bit.ly/3bRekF2>.

And a final thought from our district attorney:

"The course of our democracy, the soul of this nation, the pursuit of our ideals of justice, fairness, equality and truth all hinge on your willingness to exercise the vote, the political power, that so many fought for and even today must continue to preserve."

League Bringing Back Salt Lake County Observer Corps

By Shauna Bona, LWV-SL Local and County Government Committee Chair

Local government is a gamble that can have disastrous consequences when it fails. — Joy Reid, MSNBC Political Analyst and Host of *AM Joy*

The inland port and Olympia Hills development are just two recent examples of decisions made at the local or county level that will have far-reaching economic and environmental impacts for everyone on the Wasatch Front. In both cases, and unfortunately many others, by the time the public becomes aware of a project, it is well underway. Enabling decisions about zoning and land use planning are in place, agreements have often been signed—and what should be cause for thoughtful debate already has the feel of inevitability.

It is situations like this that have inspired a 2020 reboot of LWV-Salt Lake's County Observer Corps.

Raising Awareness, Honoring Our History

Our focus for the first quarter of 2020 is to urge officials in Salt Lake County and its municipalities to pass resolutions or proclamations acknowledging the 100th Anniversary of the League of



Vote 4-1-1 Guide Here to Help

It's only February and already 2020 is off to a busy election year. Utah's Presidential Primary is Tuesday, March 3 and ballots are already arriving in mailboxes around the State. Check out the League's Vote 4-1-1 guide at vote411.org to find out who's on your ballot and compare each candidate's answers to questions posed to them by the League. Vote 4-1-1 will be your source for non-partisan information all year.

Utah Election dates:

March 3
June 30
November 3

Women Voters.

So far, we have had great success.

- West Valley City was the first to pass a proclamation honoring our history and efforts. It was presented to LWV-UT Co-President Vickie Samuelson and LWV-Salt Lake President Kathy Biele on Tuesday, January 14.
- Cottonwood Heights followed shortly after, passing a resolution on Tuesday, January 21 thanks to the efforts of LWV-Salt Lake member Anne Zeigler.
- Millcreek City passed the resolution on Monday, February 10, thanks to LWV-Salt Lake member Teresa Carlson.
- Sandy City plans to pass the resolution on Tuesday, February 18.
- Salt Lake City to pass a resolution on Tuesday, March 3.

Our volunteers have also reached out to the Salt Lake County Council, Salt Lake City, Holladay, and Riverton, and we hope to confirm presentation dates soon.

We still need members who are willing to take the resolution to their city or community councils in Alta, Bluffdale, Copperton, Draper, Emigration Canyon, Granite, Herriman, Kearns, Midvale, Murray, South Jordan, South Salt Lake, Taylorsville, West Jordan, and White City.

Being There

Our 2020 goal is to find League members throughout Salt Lake County who can commit to attending at least one council meeting in their community per month. They would then report back on important issues and actions. In many cases, streaming and recordings are available if a League member is unable to attend in person.

If you are able to take our resolution to your council or sign on to the Observer Corps, please contact Shauna Bona (skbona@outlook.com).

Save the Date:

SLAC and League Evening of Theater

Can you believe we are halfway through the month of February? That means we are getting close to an evening of fundraising theater with our partners at Salt Lake Acting Company. On Wednesday, March 18, SLAC and the League will present "Four Women Talking about the Man under the Sheet," by local playwright Elaine Jarvik.

This is a gentle reminder that you need to get your tickets soon. We are selling tickets fast so don't miss out! Hope to see you all there, helping us celebrate 100 years of defending democracy and moving into the future.

**-Vickie Samuelson, LWV-UT
Co-President**

Weber League Hosts Presentation on Homelessness

By Terri McCulloch, LWV-Weber President



The Weber County League was given the opportunity to present a very timely meeting on homelessness. Chris Croswhite (executive director of the Ogden Rescue Mission), Sarah Ward (bookkeeper from the Lantern House), and Raquel da Silva (executive director of Family

Promise) gave their time to discuss issues and services related to the homeless population in Ogden specifically and Utah more generally.

The Ogden Rescue Mission is a faith-based facility with three programs: New Life – about 13 months – focuses on addiction and recovery; Return to Work – about three months – focuses on helping people get a job and housing; and Emergency Shelter Services focus on short term shelter and hygiene care. They also house the Seger Clinic, which provides medical, dental, and mental health services. Three hot meals a day are also available.

The Lantern House provides diverse services: shelter, a soup kitchen with breakfast and lunch for anyone in the community and dinner for residents, critical needs (bus tokens, ID, birth certificates, health care), housing support, and case management with one-on-one coaching focusing on each client's needs. The organization also houses the Hope Center, which provides health services to its clientele. They operate as a Short Term Emergency Program (or STEP) and focus on housing and building successful life skills.

Family Promise is an organization that utilizes local churches of all denominations to house families in need. The clients work during the day getting jobs, completing resumes, budgeting, seeking housing, etc. and then report to the church for dinner and to spend the night. The major focus is families with children and the services given provide ways for them to become self-sufficient. Volunteers from each church stay with the families at night, provide food, and teach them normalcy and independence. This group partners with many local organizations to provide tailored services to each family.



We learned some interesting facts regarding the issue:

- The fastest growing population is families with children.
- There has been a great increase in single dads.
- It is necessary to target children dealing with homelessness first as they are most open to stopping the cycle.
- The leading indicator in homelessness is the number of homeless



Hinckley Forums

Gardner Commons
University of Utah
260 S Central Campus Dr
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Hinckley Offices
Room 2018
(Hinckley Caucus Room)

All forums are free and open to the public, sponsored by the Hinckley Institute of Politics and The Sam Rich Program in International Politics.

For more information:
<https://www.hinckley.utah.edu/calendar>

children.

- Eighty percent of homeless children will follow the same pattern if there is no intervention.
- There are two service hubs in Utah – Salt Lake City and Ogden, and there are incentives given to cities who provide homeless services in an attempt to encourage them to address the problem in their own neighborhoods, which will spread services away from the two central hubs.
- The biggest factor is the lack of affordable housing.
- The population in Utah is expected to double in the next few years – this will double the amount of homeless programs that will be needed.

The homeless population makes up a community and many go back to their roots. If we don't find ways to include them in our community in a positive fashion. We need to remember that the homeless are not defined by being homeless – they are individuals in a homeless situation. We need to turn the negative stigma into a helping, caring environment to move these individuals to better places.

Utah County Relaunches as a League-at-Large

By Julie DeLong, LWV-UT Vice President of Local Leagues

On Saturday, January 11, at a community church in American Fork, women and men gathered to be part of a newly organized Utah County League-at-Large. Tay Gudmundson is the chairperson for the new LAL and has a group of friends and members to help them get organized for the good work in their community. More than 30 attended to hear League Co-President Vickie Samuelson talk about the historic roots of the League. Mormon Women for Ethical Government founder Sharlee Glenn spoke about values and the strides women have made in recent years. Dr. Susan Madsen from UVU's Utah Women in Leadership Project shared information about Utah women's voting patterns and how important education is to empowering voters. Longtime member Linda Clark talked passionately about the great impact the Utah County league made around air quality in the 1980's. Thanks to Connor Richards from the Provo Daily Herald who spent the afternoon with us and wrote an excellent article [you can read here](#).

LWV Makes Democracy Work for Climate and Clean Air

By Carole Straughn, LWV-UT Natural Resources Director

“Commenting makes a difference.” - Ann O’Connell

When the Legislature’s requested policy report on climate and clean air came out on Friday, January 31, [it reflected changes made](#) in response to

New League-At-Large Option Available

The LWV-UT has adapted a new League-at-Large (LAL) process. It takes five active members, with one of them committing to be the Chairperson. The State League helps by actively assisting in the organizing and kickoff process, and by managing the ongoing administrative functions. LALs work with a volunteer mentor to help them in the crucial early stages.

-Julie DeLong, LWV-UT Vice President of Local Leagues

public comments made in the previous weeks.

Among the 172 unique comments on “The Utah Roadmap: Positive solutions for climate and clean air” was a letter from the LWV-UT, as well as other letters from individual League members, all of whom poured their hopes and concerns into the Gardner Institute online portal during the three weeks it was open to the public. Now, in the final draft, the Institute credits commenters with spurring several changes to the original plan, which has added language on the “urgency of the challenge”, the “impact to Utah’s ski industry,” and has added more policy options like Governor Gary Herbert’s FY-2021 for air quality.

Some excerpts from League member Kathy Van Dame’s letter give the flavor of some of the comments that made a difference:

The Roadmap’s seven mileposts build on earlier Utah work and studies, gives a good framework to guide Utah’s continuing efforts to clean our air & stabilize our changing climate.

The Deseret News January 7, 2020 [editorial](#) in support of the Roadmap is one indicator that even conservative institutions & individuals are increasingly aware of the hazards of our current CO2 path. The decision of [24 Utah municipalities](#) to sign up for the HB 411 Community Renewable Energy process also points to a growing appetite in Utah to assume leadership in reducing criteria and GHG emissions, for our own health, and the health of our future generations.

As Terry Tempest Williams said, “The eyes of the future are looking back at us, and they are praying that we might see beyond our own time.”

In their letter to the Gardner Institute, the LWVUT Co-Presidents promised their support for Roadmap recommendations that aligned with our positions:

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, grassroots, consensus-driven organization which strives for a government representative of all for the benefit of all. We have long worked for clean air across the nation, and in 2019 we decided to advocate for solutions to the serious threat of the changing climate, which has intensified the kind of drought, wildfires and dwindling snowpack we have seen in Utah in recent years. Therefore, we will support the goals and many of the specific proposals in the Gardner Roadmap, which align with our commitment to energy conservation, air pollution controls, building resilience, and promotion of renewable resources.

Impact on the Roadmap is just one example of the ongoing work of dozens of Utah League members who make their presence felt at the Legislature. We owe much to the leadership of Presidents Catherine Weller and Vickie Samuelson, Legislative Action Committee Director Emily Walsh, and the work of devoted members who observe and report on legislative committees – not to mention to all the members who respond to action alerts, and more. Thanks to all this hard work, the League has a

Save the Date: State Convention, May 1 & 2

As you may have read in last month’s *Voter*, the Grand County League is hosting this year’s LWV-UT annual convention on Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2 in Moab. The program the Grand County League created for Friday night, May 1, will be interesting and energizing. Presentations include Julie DeLong and members of the new Utah County League-at-Large followed by the Rural Utah Project. The convention itself will be on Saturday, May 2. Voting delegates will approve the State League’s annual budget, program, proposed studies, and any changes to bylaws.

Start planning for Convention now! The dates are during Moab’s high season, so hotel rooms are going fast. There will be a lot of traffic arriving in Moab on May 1, so be sure to get there before noon if you can. All members are welcome to attend and weigh in at convention. Contact your local League president if you’d like to be a voting delegate.

**-Catherine Weller, LWV-UT
Co-President**

measurable impact on policy outcomes. As Tom Moyer, our partner from Climate Utah recently put it when hearing that we were only about 500 volunteers state-wide, “You punch above your weight!”

Keynote Speaker Known for Work on Human Rights

By Sue Lind, LWVSL Community Luncheon Chair

Human rights, corporate abuses and the efforts of corporations to fill the voids appearing in global governance are critical areas of exploration by Erika George, the Samuel D. Thurman professor of law at the S.J. Quinney College of Law.



George will be keynote speaker at the 28th Annual State of the Community Luncheon — Celebrating 100 Years Defending Democracy - Defending Democracy for the Next 100 Years. Having earned her bachelor's degree with honors at the University of Chicago and her J.D. at Harvard Law School, she presently teaches constitutional law, international human rights law, international environmental law, international business transactions and seminars in corporate citizenship.

George is awaiting publication of her book on investigations in this area. Another report — Scared at School: Sexual Violence Against Girls in South African Schools — is published in book form following an investigation with the Human Rights Watch. The research exposes how girls are discouraged from receiving an education and how vulnerable they are to the HIV AIDS epidemic and unwanted pregnancies. This scholarship has received widespread coverage in South Africa and internationally. George has received worldwide acclaim for her human rights investigations. The BBC, the Economist, NBC News, CNN and the Christian Science Monitor are just a few.

In July 2019, she was named director of the Obert C. and Grace Tanner Humanities Center.

Join us. Tables of 8/\$1,000-\$5,000; Tables of 4/\$600; Single/\$75-\$100:

Thursday, April 23

11 a.m.

Grand America Hotel, 555 S. Main Street

[Register online](#)



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.

League of Women Voters of Salt Lake
230 W. 200 South, Suite 2114
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

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.