



March 2008

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Co-Presidents:
Joyce Barnes
Phyllis Frankel

As the legislature draws to a close we owe many thanks to our lobby corps for the fine job they did tracking bills, researching issues and informing legislators of the facts. Some times attempting to reason with legislators can be a very difficult job. Special thanks to Patti O'Keefe who baked Valentine cookies for the Legislators and to Stuart Gygi who helped her distribute them. That was a nice touch.

And of course a big round of applause to Sandy Peck for writing the news for KPCW and KCPW every morning. There is no question that Sandy's Legislative news is the best coverage in the valley. I know League members listen, but many people who are not in the League have told me they tune in every morning!

We are all saddened that Roz McGee has chosen not to run again. She has been an excellent legislator and her rational voice will be missed up on the hill.

We all felt great sadness to learn of the death of Julien Puzey. She was an active member of the League and we will miss her very much.

Watch our website as we move into being 'Thoroughly Modern Millies': you can soon pay new and renewing Memberships and make Donations (including tickets, tables, and donations to Community Luncheon) online. You may use a credit card on a secure page - after mid-March at www.lwvutah.org. Look for Join Us or Donate at the top of the screens and along the left-hand menu.

Our Sunshine Week activity is going to be very interesting. The big event will take place on **March 19th** at the Main Library. At **6:30 pm** a film from the National Press Club will be shown. At 7:30 pm there will be a panel discussion on "Government Secrecy - Censoring Your Right To Know". The participants will be Attorney General Mark Shurtleff, Ben Winslow from the Deseret News, Dan Harrie from the Salt Lake Tribune and our own Sherilyn Bennion - a retired professor of Journalism at Humboldt State University in California.

The Utah Society of Professional Journalists will present the Black Hole award. This award is given to a person who has done an outstanding job of covering the news. Hope to see you at this informative and interesting event.

— *Phyllis Frankel*, Co-President

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CALL TO GO TO CONVENTION

Spring is in the air in Utah: Warmer days, more daylight and plants greening up. It is time to get serious about attending the League National convention in Portland OR. The dates are June 13-17.

On Friday the 13th, there are workshops on the national study proposals. One proposal is "The advisability of using the National Popular Vote compact among states as a method for electing a President." The other two relate to healthcare and education.

The opening session is on Saturday and sessions continue daily till Tuesday. There will be votes on program, budget, and new officers. Most exciting is meeting and talking to other League members. The energy and excitement of members from all over the US is awesome!!!! Everyone has their own slant on things and is willing to share information readily.

I The price goes up at the end of May.

After looking at other hotel prices and realizing that many early and late meetings occur in these few days, some of us who will attend decided to stay at the Hilton. We will share rooms and some are even willing to have 3 in a room (2 beds and a cot). My personal experience is that you are so tired after the long days you will have little trouble sleeping, and a glass of wine with friends at the end of the day is a great unwinding.

I am working with Sandy Peck to get all the voting credentials to which we are entitled. If you need help with a roommate, let me know and I'll work on that too. Please advise the office if you are planning to attend, so we can be together for meals, etc. In the sessions, we sit with the others from our state.

Convention registration is on line at <http://www.lwv.org> After you register as a

...CALL TO GO TO CONVENTION continued on page 8

PIE IN THE SKY?

Local leagues pick their favorite issues for National Study Planning

I want to let you know the results of our recent National Program planning discussions in Unit Meetings. The results of the Local Program Planning are more difficult to tally and VOTER press-time is upon us, so those results will be in the next issue.

The final votes reported for National Program are:

Health Care: 17 FOR

National Popular Vote: 21 FOR

Total Votes: 38

Polly will report to LWVUS on our results. These topics will be further discussed at National Convention. See the article about attending convention above.

—*Polly Hough*, VP Program Planning

VOTER FRAUD

&

VOTER ID

What Does

It Mean

To You?

VOTER FRAUD

This article is from a League member and reflects her opinions.

Voter fraud is defined as ineligible people voting, not simply as ineligible persons being listed on the voter registration rolls. Due to the lack of any requirement to remove yourself from voting rolls when you move or die, etc. virtually all voting rolls have lots of extra people on them. However, the academic research shows overwhelmingly that there is virtually no voter fraud occurring in the U.S. with the exception of the Washington DC area where approximately 300 voters, reported in one study, were found to have crossed into Maryland to be able to vote in the Presidential election.

Unlike vote fraud which is undetectable, voter fraud is simple enough to detect by looking at the poll books and official register of voters. In fact, an exhaustive search for illegal voters in the 8 month-long contest by both Democrats and Republicans in the 2004 Washington State Gubernatorial race found only 7 illegal voters in the entire state and all were ex-felons who had neglected to go through the process to re-establish their right to vote after serving their time. That is a pretty typical rate and reason for illegal voting in any state which has been investigated.

On the other hand, requirements for specific forms of ID are known to disenfranchise thousands of voters per state.

Here are some articles on the subject that people sent me in response to my inquiries. Tova Wang and her co-author are considered the top U.S. experts on the subject.

ID and Voting Rights Tova Andrea Wang, The Century Foundation, 8/29/2005, Laws requiring all voters to present very specific forms of identification before exercising their right to vote are rapidly becoming the voting rights barrier of the 21st Century. <http://www.tcf.org/list.asp?type=NC&pubid=1084>

Voter ID and Fraud: Prove It Tova Andrea Wang, The Century Foundation, 7/28/2005, the report flatly states that there is no reason for states to go beyond HAVA's narrow provisions regarding the presentation of identification in order to vote. <http://www.tcf.org/list.asp?type=NC&pubid=1067>

Fraud, Reform, and Political Power: Controlling the Vote, From Nineteenth-Century America to Present-Day Georgia, Tova Andrea Wang, The Century Foundation, 10/30/2006. Tova Andrea Wang looks back at how accusations of voter fraud have been used to justify actions that made it more difficult for less advantaged citizens in particular to cast ballots. <http://www.tcf.org/list.asp?type=PB&pubid=590>

"The Politics of Voter Fraud", Lorraine Minnite, <http://www.bradblogger.com/Docs/PoliticsofVoterFraudFinal.pdf>

NYTIMES: "In 5-Year DOJ Effort, Scant Evidence of Voter Fraud" <http://tinyurl.com/2gq26j>

Original, Unaltered EAC "Voter Fraud" Report <http://www.bradblogger.com/?p=4391>

— *Kathy Dopp*, kathy.dopp@gmail.com

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VOTER SERVICE

It is shaping up to be an extremely active election year for our League. In our effort to manage the increased opportunities to serve the public, we are in the process of restructuring our committee.

Sharon Walkington and I appreciate the willingness of Joyce Green to assume the responsibility of scheduling members to attend the monthly Naturalization Ceremonies held at the Rose Wagner Theater. This is an opportunity to be a part of those ceremonies as an observer and to distribute Voting Applications to new citizens. It is a joyful experience for those who are able to assist.

Phyllis Frankel has volunteered to coordinate the activities of the Democracy Store this year. This event that is held at the Salt Lake City downtown library grows each year. We have active participation by League members as well as members of the American Association of University Women to provide voting information to the public. It is an opportunity to interact with citizens of all ages and political preferences. We have found that this is an excellent way to serve members of the community.

Some members of our local League who were in attendance at the League of Women Voters National Convention last year returned with the idea of organizing an entry in a 4th of July parade. This would in be organized in honor of those courageous Suffragettes who worked for the right of women to vote 88 years ago. Sharon Walkington will welcome your suggestions and participation in that project.

We are in the process of beginning the parade effort as we prepare an application to enter the Murray 4th of July Parade. Let us know what your interests are in getting involved. We have members who have volunteered to make banners and sashes for those of us who march (it is a fairly short parade route!). And of course, if you have access to any pre-1970 antique automobiles, even for others to ride in, just let Sharon know.

— *Mary Fogg*, 2nd V.P, Voter Service Co-Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

A small group of 5-6 LWV members have been meeting for early morning breakfast once a month to talk about what we can do to get more people involved with the LWV. One of the first things we talked about and are proud to announce is that the LWV of Utah is going on-line with their membership dues and donations. We expect you will be able to buy your tickets and make donations to the State of Community Luncheon online, by credit card, before the end of March. Our League website www.lwvutah.org is now more user-friendly and has a wealth of information. You must try it.

Another project we are working on is having LWV members go into the local high schools, spend 5-10 minutes talking to their civic or social studies classes about the political system and how it relates to the real world. Kathy Dorn is heading this up and would love to hear from you if you would like to participate. We are working with Sherrie Swenson and the County Clerk's office as we would also like to utilize the time to register new voters.

...MEMBERSHIP continued on next page

MEMBERSHIP continued

We're excited to get members enthused about attending National Convention in Portland, OR, June 13-17.

Look in the *City Weekly* for our Question and Answer column – it's clever! Sue Lind has done a great job.

We are talking of having a brochure/pamphlet on the highlights/facts of the studies we do and our adopted position that would be available on our website and to the public. We do all this wonderful research and think the public should be interested. Let us know what you think of that idea.

—*Anne Ziegler*, 3rd VP, Organization

STATE OF THE COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

For over 10 years the League of Women Voters of Salt Lake has been putting on our State of the Community Luncheon. This year we're thrilled to announce that our speaker for the 2008 luncheon will be Pamela S. Perlich, Ph.D. Dr. Perlich works as a Senior Research Economist in the Bureau of Economic and Business Research at the University of Utah. Before joining the Bureau she worked for seven years in the Governor's office of Planning and Budget concentrating on long-term economic and demographic projections. With the surge of interest in the economy of our nation and state, Dr. Perlich will be a most timely speaker.

Each year we honor a leader and member of the community who has worked to make a difference for all those who live in Salt Lake City. This year, our honoree is former Senator Paula F. Julander who was first elected to the Utah State Senate in 1998 and was elected to a second term in 2002. Paula served in Senate Minority Leadership during her first term and with her background of 41 years in nursing she advocated such issues as education, health care and crime reduction.

We hope you can join us for our luncheon at the **Little America on Thursday, April 10, 2008**. There will be a social hour 11 to noon with lunch starting promptly at 12. The cost will be \$40 per person. A table for 8 people may be reserved for \$320. As net proceeds from this luncheon go to the sustaining of the SL League, any contribution you would like to make will be most welcomed.

We know **many of you will want to pay with credit cards** for tickets, tables, and donations by using the online Donation page on our website www.lwvutah.org soon after March 17. This is something we are excited to offer. You may want to consider paying both Donations and Membership payments online by credit card for the first time this year..

— *Sue Lind*, Public Relations Chair

**COME
ENJOY**

**ANNUAL
LUNCHEON**

**at
LITTLE
AMERICA**

April 10

**Social Hour
11:00 am**

**Lunch
12:00 pm**

**INTRODUCE
YOURSELF
TO A
NEW MEMBER**

**THANK YOU
To Our
CONTRIBUTORS:**

**Doris Gras
Sue Lind
Peggy Christensen
Sue Gordon**

**IN MEMORY
OF
JULIEN
PUZEY**

NEW MEMBERS

Trudy Duncan, 1475 E. 6030 South, SLC 84121
272-4963
edtd@comcazst.net

Trudy is a retired educator who taught history in junior high for 30 years after graduating from Westminster College. She is a member of AAUW, for which she is a delegate on the Women’s Legislative Council. She enjoys hiking, walking and travel and loves to read and calls herself a news junkie who reads all kinds of news material. Her husband teaches AP Physics at Cottonwood High School. She joined to become more familiar with the Utah Legislature.

Gwendolyn “Wendy” Wilson, 729 East Altara Circle, Sandy 84094
553-8075
mrsdoodlepunk@hotmail.com

Wendy came from Montana 13 years ago. She is a master tax adviser and preparer with H&R Block. She has a 12-year-old, and is an area leader supervising nine block captains in her neighborhood watch group. She enjoys quilting, travel, cooking and music. She calls herself a “word nerd,” who likes to do puzzles. She wants to become more politically active.

Carol Ballou, 1494 E. Alta Circle 84103
322-1494; 483-3068-w
carolballou@comcast.net

Carol is an independent psychologist who works with children and adolescents. She got her degree from the University of Utah. Enjoys reading and spends most of her time involved with her three young children. She was impressed by the League’s work in the political arena, and wants to participate.

Dana Cook, 3451 Bernada 84121
582-2909

Brooke Johnson
1095 Brook Circle, Kaysville 84037
801-499-6145
brookijdst@yahoo.com

Brooke is a sophomore at the University of Utah, majoring in political science. She trains for triathlons by running, biking and swimming. She enjoys theater and local music. One of her professors mentioned that the League would be a good resource.

—*Carolyn Dunn*, Membership Chair



Our member Julien Puzey died 2/29/2008. She was a delightfully sharing person who worked among us and enriched those with whom she worked. Julien enthusiastically worked on the Hate Crimes Study committee and was constantly concerned for us to be fair minded to those on both sides of the issue.

Julien was very active in the Women’s State Legislative Council and worked with the LWVU Legislative Lobbying Core until her cancer made her give it up. Her partner Marie Fulmer was on the Salt Lake Board as 1st VP- Program until she resigned to take care of Julien.

This link and online guest book is valid for 30 days:

<http://www.legacy.com/saltlakatribune/Obituaries.asp?Page=Lifestory&PersonId=104706784>

IMMIGRATION

- A COMPLEX

ISSUE

**About March 17,
at
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your Membership
in the League**

And

Pay with a

Credit Card,

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Or Money Order

IMMIGRANTS—Legal or Illegal

By Susan Lind

This article is from a League member and reflects her opinions and life experiences.

My family has been involved in the ranching industry for over thirty years. What started as a small 100 acre ranch in the Uintahs has expanded to a feedlot and farm in Corinne and a large ranch in Ruby Valley, Nevada. In the early 1980's we hired an illegal immigrant, Francisco Nava to help us with our pursuits. From time to time, since then, we have hired other illegal immigrants to help with building fences, brandings, and such other work that comes with the territory of ranching. All these men have been hard working, good individuals. We have always enjoyed their company.

After Francisco had been with us awhile the amnesty program was made available. We, thus, were able to get a "green card" for him. When that was accomplished, Francisco and I set about getting visas for the rest of his family. We spent endless hours waiting in lines at the U.S. Immigration office obtaining forms and filling them out. We had to send for birth and marriage certificates from his family in Quechultenango. After finally filing the papers, it was another three years before we heard we could proceed. Francisco had to fly to Mexico City and meet his family to help them pass physicals and fill out more paper work. At last, all did receive their visas. One by one his family began to come to the states. Two sons, Miguel and Jose, have graduated from Cottonwood High School. Another is to graduate this spring. The Navas now own a home in Midvale and are a family all together again.

Francisco first crossed the border by riding the undercarriage of a train's freight car. Another lady's progenitors crossed the hot desserts of Mexico in order to work in the fields of the Santa Clara Valley in California. This lady is Anna Escobedo Cabral, United States Treasurer. Anna is the oldest of 5 children. Her father worked very hard at many jobs to buy the family a home. The home was lost when he became disabled. The family then rented a shanty down by the tracks.

At 16 years of age, Anna decided to graduate from high school early in order to go to work and help support her family. She was a very good student. Her math teacher, Mr. Philip Lamm, told her she should go to college. Mr. Lamm helped her fill out the application and apply for scholarships. Anna did receive a scholarship to the University of California, Davis. This scholarship not only covered her expenses, but she also found some extra funds to send home to her family.

Graduating from UC Davis, she went on to the John F. Kennedy School of Government Administration for a Master's degree. Later, both she and her husband, Victor, went on to achieve further degrees at Harvard. Anna's was in law. During this whole process, Victor and Anna have raised four very successful children, Raquel, Viana, Catalina and Christopher.

Prior to her position as United States Treasurer, Anna has been the Director of the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Latino Initiatives and President and CEO of the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility, a national non-profit organization which partners with Fortune 500 companies to increase Hispanic representation in corporate America.

Anna's signature is found in the left hand, lower corner of many dollar bills. Perhaps one of the best ways she likes to make her presence known, though, is through visiting grade school kids. She states, "I am amazed about the kind of joy that elementary school kids have about education. They are so full of energy and enthusiasm. Something happens to these kids. They are lost by the time they get to high school. This is one reason that President Bush's No child Left Behind Act for education is very important."

Francisco and Anna represent all that is good of those who have recently migrated to the United States. There must be some good kind of legislation which will bring abundant work permits, visas, and eventual citizenship. These people continually revitalize our country.

CALL TO GO TO CONVENTION continued...

member, click on "For Members" / Council & Convention. Then, under **QUICK LINKS**, click "Registration". Register and pay by credit card.

If you have any questions, contact Kathy Dorn at kmd1965@msn.com Please call the league office and add your name to the CONVENTION list so we know all who are going.

— *Kathy Dorn*

LEAGUE ACTION AT THE 2008 LEGISLATURE

Your Lobby Corps was very, very busy at their computers and on Capitol Hill this year, supporting your top priority, education — including funding for the International baccalaureate program. Legislators came up with a new idea, putting all education bills and appropriations to pay for them, including some that had failed to pass, into one big bill. It will take a while to figure out how that turned out. It did pass.

We lobbied for tax credits for clean cars, energy-efficient state buildings and residences, and cool solar power investors.

We advocated for utilities to set renewable electric power goals, for an adequate state budget to clear the air of particulates and mercury, and for water conservation.

We supported open meetings and a task force to study immigration, rather than punitive immigration laws. We opposed personal use of campaign funds by candidates and elected officials and opposed an unnecessarily onerous bill requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote.

We even appreciated our legislators by putting pre-Valentine cookies and cards on their desks. (Thanks, Patti O’Keefe and Stuart Gygi!)

I know I’m leaving out some of our adventures, so please be sure to come to the legislative wrap-up on Thursday, March 13 at 5:30 pm. See the Mailing Page (Back Page) for details.

— *Sandy Peck*, Executive Director

PARTY CAUCUS TRAINING

Party Caucus is where the ordinary person’s vote can make the greatest impact. You can help ensure that candidates representing you and your values are on the ballot in November.

Join HEAL Utah, Utahns for Public Schools, and several other Utah non-profits for a tutorial on getting involved in the Democratic and Republican caucuses on Tuesday, March 25th. The two remaining training dates after receipt of this VOTER are:

Tuesday, March 11, 6:30-8:00 pm, West Valley Cultural Center, 1355 W 3100 S, Spanish & English sessions available.

Thursday, March 13, 6:00-7:30 pm, (space limited), Health & Wellness Bldg, Westminster College, 1840 S 1300 E, Salt Lake City

To RSVP or get information: Jessica at 801-355-5055 or Jessica@healthutah.org or <http://www.healutah.org/events/CaucusTraining>

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HINCKLEY FORUMS– FREE TO PUBLIC
March 2008

Wed. March 12, 9:40 a.m.

American Security and the Horn of Africa

Vicki Huddleston, Visiting Fellow, Brookings Institution; former Chief of the United States Interests Section in Cuba; former U.S. Ambassador to Mali and Madagascar.

Thur. March 13, 10:45 a.m.

Redistricting Has the Time for Reform Arrived?

Tim Chambliss (moderator) Assistant Professor/Lecturer, Political Science Department, U of U, **Council Member Joe Hatch**, Salt Lake County, **Representative Rebecca Chavez-Houck**, (D-District 24), and **Chris Bleak**, Chief of Staff, Utah House of Representatives.

Mon. March 24, 2:00 p.m.

The Globalization of Labor in the 21st Century

Lant Pritchett, Professor of the Practice of Economic Development, Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University

Tues. March 25, 4:30 p.m.

Smart Power: Leadership in Today's World

Joseph Nye, University Distinguished Service Professor, Sultan of Oman Professor of International Relations, former Dean, Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Thurs. March 27, 2:00 p.m.

Guantanamo Bay: The Struggle for Human Rights and Justice



OPEN THE GOVERNMENT
ANNUAL SUNSHINE WEEK

Save **March 19** for the annual Sunshine Week webcast presentation from the National Press Club, followed by a panel discussion on the topic "Government Secrecy: Censoring Our Right to Know."

The webcast will include a panel of experts who will address issues of access to government information, including executive branch power and secrecy, congressional rights and responsibilities and the role of the public and non-profit sector. The event will end with ideas for action including new and exciting ways to find and use government information

Panelists include Attorney General Mark Shurtleff, Dan Harrie from the Salt Lake Tribune, Dan Winslow from the Deseret Morning News, and Sherilyn Bennion, who represents the League on the Utah Foundation for Open Government. This event will be held in the **Main Library in Salt Lake at 6:30 p.m.**

This webcast presentation will be pre-recorded earlier in the day for our evening viewing.

The term "Webcast"

is used to describe the ability to use the Web / Internet to deliver live or delayed versions of sound or video broadcasts

**The League of Women
Voters of Salt Lake**
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SALT LAKE VOTER

March 2008

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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

March - NO Unit Meetings this Month
March Focus: Legislative WrapUp & Sunshine Week

LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

Thursday, March 13, 5:30 pm
at Girl Scout Headquarters
445 East 4500 South

Park in parking lot to North of building

Use rear entrance

Sen. Karen Mayne and Rep. Wayne Harper have been
invited to address us and respond to your questions

SUNSHINE WEEK CELEBRATION

Wednesday, March 19, 6:30 pm
at the Main Library

A recorded Webcast from Washington D.C.

Followed by

Panel Discussion at 7:30 pm

“Government Secrecy - Censoring Your Right To Know”.

Participants: Attorney General Mark Shurtleff,

Ben Winslow from the Deseret News,

Dan Harrie from the Salt Lake Tribune and

our own Sherilyn Bennion - a retired professor
of Journalism at Humboldt State University in California