



# **WATCHDOG**

## Message From the President

Terri McCulloch

This year has definitely been going by quickly and the Weber League has had a very busy year. We have reached consensus on three studies: Funding Public Education in Utah, Agriculture in the United States, and Relocation of the Utah State Prison. All results are completed and turned in to the state and national levels. I appreciate the time and energy spent by all participants. This is an unusually large number of studies for one year, but we have accomplished it.

Our March meeting led by Di Allison and Terri Martin focused on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wilderness Act. It was an excellent presentation and the birthday cake was great. Thank you to those of you who supported us.

The board of the Weber League has recently endorsed an update on the Local Government study conducted in 1981. Marcia Harris and Evelyn Bertilson proposed that we update this study and bring the structure of the county government back in the limelight. Evelyn and Marcia, together with me, Leah Murray, Di Allison, Lou Shurtliff, and Marilyn O'Dell have begun working on this. We will give an update to all membership at the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held on April 14, 2014 at 6:00 at Sonora Grill. In this publication you will find Annual Meeting material. Included are the minutes of last year's Annual Meeting, the Treasurer's Report, and the Nominating Committee report. Please take a minute to look at these so we can answer questions and vote on them on April 14. Everyone begin thinking about any program ideas you would like to see covered next year.

On May 14, 2014, we will be holding a Member Orientation meeting at the Cherrywood Condo Club House on 12<sup>th</sup> Street, which Marilyn O'Dell graciously arranged for us. This meeting is for everyone. The Board feels that all of us could benefit from a review of the purpose and structure of the League. We also want to spend some time socializing with others, so please put this on your calendar now so you will remember to attend.

This year has been a hard one for our League as we have lost some excellent members. Marie Irvine was one of these. She passed away unexpectedly in February and has left a large hole not

only in the League but also in many other organizations. I am very saddened by her passing and encourage all of us to take a moment with those we love, because they can be called away so suddenly.

Thanks for everything you do – we accomplish a lot with a few people. It is because our league has members who will do their small part and together a lot gets done. Thank you so much for that. I hope to see you on March 10.



## Prison Relocation Study Results

The following consensus answers were submitted by our League to the state concerning relocation of the prison. This consensus meeting was excellent and thought provoking.

### **1. Should improving the corrections system precede discussions about relocation or rebuilding the same prison?**

- a. We believe that suggestions for improvement of the current system should be explored prior to a decision being made on relocation.
- b. We believe we should look at current needs before we actually build a new facility. As time has passed since the prison was placed in Draper, we wonder if the real problem has nothing to do with relocation but rather the services provided.
- c. We believe it is important to assess the current programs and match these with the needs of the individuals that are incarcerated; i.e., more mental health services and more effective drug programs.
- d. We believe that we should not focus only on economic gain. The prison provides services that are, unfortunately, necessary. At the same time, we need to evaluate the programs available to reduce recidivism rather than gaining economically.

### **Why do we feel this way?**

- a. We believe that moving isn't the real answer to problems with the current services. If recidivism is high at the current location, merely moving the prison will not address that issue.
- b. We believe we need to take a serious look at what we need for facilities before we just build another prison. It is important to look ways to reduce reoffending and provide enough support that prisoners leave with skills that could help them to be successful.
- c. We believe that if you build it, "they will come." This concept has proven itself in the past.
- d. We believe relocating the prison in a remote location drives up costs – there will be more miles to drive for employees and family members, it will be a longer stretch to travel for medical and other services, the distance has the possibility of decreasing the number of volunteers.
- e. We believe that merely developing land is not a compelling reason to move the facility.

### **What improvements are most critical?**

- a. We believe that the current programs and the current needs of the prisoners need to be assessed and programs developed that will service these needs rather than just moving the building and continuing in the same manner.
- b. We believe we must look at other ways of punishment in society for some crimes.
- c. We believe that education and training are vital programs that must be improved.
- d. We believe that it is the program that drives the success rate, not the building or location.

### **2. What alternatives exist to enlarging the Draper prison?**

- a. We believe very strongly that alternative sentencing should be imposed for crimes that warrant something different than prison time. For example, a person who embezzles money should have a sentence geared around restitution rather spending time behind bars for many years. The current prison structure should house violent and serious prisoners. Programs should be developed to meet the needs of some of the other types of crimes committed. Prison should not be the only answer.
- b. We believe that education and training must be improved to provide prisoners with skills to function in society and not re-offend.
- c. We believe programs centered on basic life skills must be implemented to aid with support when the prisoners are released.
- d. We believe in-depth counseling and parenting programs need to be implemented.
- e. We believe mental health and drug programs need to be increased and changed to be more effective.
- f. We believe spiritual counselors should be active in the prison environment.
- g. We believe that upon release from prison, a prisoner should go through a “half-way house” program where they can work but must be in a secure facility each night.
- h. We believe we could look at possibilities of ways to revamp county jail facilities to meet some of the needs of less violent offenders.
- i. We believe we should look at creating different types of prisons for different types or levels of crime.

### **Do you think the LWVUT should support any of these alternatives? Why?**

- a. We believe we should support all of the aforementioned programs.
- b. We believe focusing on the type of crime and the specific needs of the offenders will help decrease recidivism and benefit society.
- c. We believe some individuals can be rehabilitated and should be given the programs necessary to re-enter society successfully.
- d. We do not believe that developing land answers some of the problems we currently face.

**3. Should economic development be a factor in determining where the prison is located?  
Why or why not?**

- a. We believe that this cannot be ignored, but we strongly believe it should not be the only reason for relocation.
- b. We believe that moving for economic development will cause more problems than rebuilding the current prison with changes made on services and structure.

**4. Do you support relocating the state prison to a more remote location?**

- a. We do not support relocating to a more remote location.
- b. We do believe that other closer alternatives might be looked at as long as the main purpose of the move is geared around improving the prison and the services offered – not on putting money in people's pockets.



**Marie Irvine**

As most of you know, we lost Marie Irvine to a heart attack in February. Marie has been a member of the League for many years and set up our first website. She patiently created the page, filled it with material, and left it as her legacy to her important contribution to us. Not only was she valued by our organization, she was active in so many other things. She was an avid history buff. If you wanted to know why about anything, she would find out. She was the Chair of the Weber County Library Board of Trustees and was a vital part of the recent library bond election. She worked tirelessly to garner support for the bond and was so excited to see the plan in action. Marie was an amazing woman and we are saddened to see her leave us.

**Dates to Remember**

April 14, 2015 – Annual Meeting - Sonora Grill – 6:00 p.m.

May 14, 2014 – Member Orientation - 7:00 p.m. at Cherrywood Condos Club House



## ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

### Nominating Committee Report

President – Terri McCulloch\*

First Vice President – Sue Skordos\*

Second Vice President – Leah Murray

Third Vice President – Marcia Harris

Secretary – Heather Hill\*

Co-Treasurers – Evelyn Bertilson and Marilyn O'Dell

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WEBER COUNTY

ANNUAL MEETING

April 8, 2013 – 7 pm

Hug-Hes Restaurant

**Present:** Terri McCulloch, Susan Skordos, Marilyn O'Dell, Evelyn Bertilson, Carol McCormick, Heather Hill, Janet Shipton, Lynn Carroll, Beverly Dalley, Patricia Garner, Di Allison, Lou Shurtliff, Leah Murray, Marie Irvine, Susan Farber, Marcia Harris, Azenett Garza, and Kathryn MacKay

#### **Minutes**

There were no changes to the **minutes from last year's** annual meeting so it was moved and seconded to accept said minutes.

#### **Budget**

We received **financial statements** from Carol McCormick, which are attached. There was a question as to why Utah Education Fund was called Utah and not Weber County Education Fund. This was the only fund that was considered non-taxable, although there was mention that 30% could go into general operating expenses. The budget was moved and seconded to accept the budget.

#### **Nominating Committee**

The changes are second vice president will be Leah Murray and nominating committee will stay with Marcia Harris. The treasurers will continue with Carol McCormick and Evelyn Bertilson. The president will continue to be Terri McCulloch. The first vice president will be Sue Skordos. The secretary will be Heather Hill.

Terri McCulloch was lauded for her work as President and given potted herbs as a token of our appreciation.

#### **Website**

The website is up and running and looking good thanks to Jenica Jacobson. It is at: [weberleague.org](http://weberleague.org).

#### **State Convention**

The LWV State Convention will be held in Moab May 17 & 18 in the basement of Zion's Bank. We need three delegates to go. Marilyn O'Dell will be there and Marcia Harris will also attend.

**Overview of Last year** – Attached

#### **County Assessments**

Leah Murray has researched these papers and they stop at 2002. Leah did manage to get PDF copies. She was told to look at Ogden City instead of Weber County and she might have better luck.

## **Library Mail In Vote**

This is the first time in history that voters will chose by mail to accept a \$45 Million bond to improve the libraries. There will be four projects:

- 1- Brand new headquarters library in Roy
- 2- Renovate the main library
- 3- Finish the North Ogden library
- 4- Expand the parking lot in Huntsville to accommodate small conferences.

## **League Training**

Two people will be trained from each league in Utah for membership and leadership. Leah Murray and Terri McCulloch both requested to go. This is set for August 3 and 4.

## **Suggestions for Programs for Next Year**

- Air quality
- Violence in schools (needs to be narrowed down, i.e., NRA, police forces)
- Caucus system – is this a way to choose a candidate.
- Taking public lands back from the federal government
- Update on affordable health card – Medicaid – exchanges
- What will happen to children services, i.e., autism, special needs
- Education funding
- Lack of mental health facilities
- Another talk with the Ogden mayor
- County structure

## **Suggestions for Programs for the State League of Women Voters**

- Educational funding
- Public land grab
- Water study, i.e., Lake Powell pipeline

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by Heather Hill

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2015**

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
	2013-2014	4/1/12-3/11/14	<b>Budget</b> 2014-2015
<b>I. EXPENDITURES</b>			
<b>A. OPERATING COSTS</b>			
1. General Supplies & Stamps	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00
2. Meeting Space Donation	<u>25.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
<b>B. BOARD &amp; ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES</b>			
1. Board Expenses	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	<u>\$ 160.00</u>	<u>\$ 150.00</u>
	\$ 50.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 150.00
<b>C. DELEGATES TRAVEL &amp; AFFILIATIONS</b>			
1. State Convention & Travel	\$ 100.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 100.00
2. National Convention & Travel	00.00	00.00	00.00
3. Other Meetings/Organizations	<u>00.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>
	\$ 100.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 100.00
<b>D. LEAGUE FINANCIAL SUPPORT</b>			
1. State Assessment(\$10/member)	\$ 230.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 260.00
2. National Assessment(\$31/mem)	<u>713.00</u>	<u>806.00</u>	<u>806.00</u>
	\$ 943.00	\$ 1046.00	\$ 1066.00
<b>E. MEMBERSHIP</b>			
1. Picnic	\$ 100.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00
2. Annual Meeting	50.00	59.36	60.00
3. Other	<u>00.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>
	\$ 150.00	\$ 59.36	\$ 60.00
<b>F. PUBLICATIONS</b>			
1. Directory	\$ 25.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 25.00
2. Watchdog	<u>00.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>
	\$ 25.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 25.00
<b>G. EDUCATION &amp; VOTER SERVICE</b>			
1. Web Site	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00
2. Publications	<u>100.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
	\$ 100.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 100.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1393.00</b>	<b>\$1315.36</b>	<b>\$1551.00</b>

**II. INCOME**

A. DUES	<u>\$ 871.00</u>	<u>\$ 1035.00</u>	<u>\$ 1035.00</u>
	\$ 871.00	\$ 1035.00	\$ 1035.00
B. SPECIAL EVENTS	<u>\$ 00.00</u>	<u>\$ 00.00</u>	<u>\$ 00.00</u>
	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00
C. UTAH EDUCATION FUND			
1. Received by Local League	<u>\$ 100.00</u>	<u>\$ 00.00</u>	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
	\$ 100.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 100.00
D. FUNDRAISERS			
1. Interest	<u>\$ 2.50</u>	<u>\$ 2.99</u>	<u>\$ 3.00</u>
	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.99	\$ 3.00
E. CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>\$ 419.50</u>	<u>\$ 55.00</u>	<u>\$ 413.00</u>
	\$ 419.50	\$ 55.00	\$ 413.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1393.00</b>	<b>\$ 10922.99</b>	<b>\$ 1551.00</b>

America First		
Savings	2/28/2014	\$ 650.14
Checking	2/28/2014	\$ 4971.46

Weber League Education Fund Balance 3/11/2014 \$ 1551.93