



The Voter

March 2017

League of Women Voters of Laramie

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting: April 3, 7 pm, Albany County Commissioners Office, basement of Albany County Courthouse

Annual Meeting: Saturday, April 22, 2017, breakfast @ 8 am; meeting 8:30 am till noon, Room 104, First United Methodist Church, 1215 Gibbon, Laramie. We will be voting on our new Program Plan, Yearly Budget, and new board officers

State Convention: May 6 – May 7, 2017 at AmericInn in Laramie, WY (tritt@uwyo.edu for more info). Let us know if you're willing to attend as a LWV delegate!

Student Presentations of research on Global issues:
Stay tuned for email in April.
(garrison@uwyo.edu for more info)

EU Trade And Foreign Policy by Catherine Ashton:

April 7 – 7:00 pm, Talk hosted by UW Political Science department at the College Of Education Auditorium

April 7 – 3:30 pm, Coffee with Catherine over an informal discussion with LWV members on her "Experience as a Woman Leader in International Relations", at UW College of Business Atrium
(rkayhill@gmail.com for more info)

Co-President's Message

The annual Program Planning meeting was held, and yielded some changes to our Program, but no major shifts. We will be voting on the new Proposed Program at the Annual Meeting, after which it will appear on our website (Local League --> Laramie). We will also be considering a consensus program on the transfer of federal public lands to states. Thanks to all who came to assist in this effort.

Two important activities are coming up: (1) Annual Meeting, on April 22 at the Methodist Church, 8:00 a.m. breakfast followed by business meeting, and (2) the League State Convention, here in Laramie, at the AmericInn, May 6 and 7 (Saturday and Sunday). The banquet speaker will be Stephanie Anderson, of the Political Science Department at UW, whose scholarship focuses on Europe.

Please consider serving as a convention delegate for the Laramie League. Convention help with transport and setup would be welcome. We also need volunteers to provide some food for a carry-in lunch for delegates on Saturday. Call co-pres Terri at 307-343-2540 if you can help.

*Robin Hill and Terri Rittenburg,
LWVL co-presidents 2015-2017*

LWVL Nominating Committee Report

Following is Laramie League's Nominating Committee Report. Members of the committee include Nancy Lockwood and Lynne Ipiña. Here is a list of current positions open / updated and corresponding nominations:

President - Nancy Lockwood, Terri Rittenburg (Terri R. is willing to be appointed as co-president for one year)

Secretary - Megan Richardson

Vice President - Robin Hill to fill the remaining year of Nancy Lockwood term

Elected Directors - Devon O'Connell
Jean Garrison
Jamie Egolf

Refer to Page 4 of this document – officers list with 2017 year (in parenthesis) are up for election/re-election.

LWVL Nominating Committee

Laramie LWV Members – Come to Convention

The League of Women Voters of Laramie is entitled to seven delegates at the State Convention. As you have been reading in this newsletter, the convention is scheduled here, at the AmericInn, on Saturday and Sunday, May 6 and 7. Consider serving as a delegate. You will attend meetings, take part in deliberations, and cast votes. Please contact Terri Rittenburg at 307-343-2540 if you are interested.

Robin Hill,
LWVL co-president

Observer Reports

Albany County Tourism Board (Katie Morgan): Two items of note. Laramie will be hosting the 2017 Wyoming Summer Senior Olympic Games August 2 – 6. Volunteers will be needed to help staff events; Tennis, Basketball, Bowling, Horseshoes, Pickleball, Swimming, Golf Darts, Racquetball, Trap Shooting, Skeet Shooting, Table Tennis, Weight Lifting, Archery, Badminton, billiards, Track & Field. Email parksand recinfo@cityoflaramie.org if you are interested in helping out. Or let us know if you plan on competing (for those of us over 50) and we can come cheer you on! <http://www.wyseniorolympics.com/>

Iverson Memorial Hospital Board Of Trustees (Katie Morgan) : The board has voted to transition to a 501(c)(3) status effective this year. Their justification is to faster respond to a changing healthcare environment in the state. Continuing healthcare reform is demanding hospitals increase quality at the lowest possible cost. The hospital must think and act quickly to maximize quality and cost. More county-run hospitals are failing across the country and more are partnering with other organizations to improve their viability. A nonprofit status will enable IMH to grow faster and enhance their competitive position, provide increased physician participation, greater freedom for expansion and exploration. The community will benefit from increased talent acquisition and growth. Having the latitude to make strategic decisions will enable IMH to maintain services and jobs in Albany County. The time is good in that the hospital is making this transition from a position of financial strength and at a time where they have a strong, stable and cohesive board and management team. It will enable the hospital to explore all options from an organizational, clinical and legal perspective. The elected district board will stay intact and the district will

LWV Laramie Annual Meeting

JOIN US ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017
TO VOTE ON OUR ANNUAL BUDGET, PROGRAM
PLAN. VOICE YOUR OPINION ON COMMUNITY-
ISSUES THAT LWV-LARAMIE NEEDS TO FOCUS ON.

CONTACT TRITT@UWYO.EDU OR
RKAYHILL@UWYO.EDU FOR MORE INFO.

PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET INCLUDED
ON PAGES 5 AND 6 OF THIS DOCUMENT

Comments / Questions:
rkayhill@gmail.com

maintain ownership of the hospital. The hospital will be then be leased to a local nonprofit managed by a nonprofit board of directors. This new hospital management board will be diverse and include clinical expertise and connect strongly with the local community. The district board will manage the provisions of the lease and assure performance metrics are met for quality, safety, finance and community benefits. The district board will retain the right to rescind the agreement for non-performance. This change could also mean that some of the hospital district tax funding could be directed to community health programs other than IMH.

History Corner

Laramie Native Crusades for Women's Rights

Laramie native Ethel Connor Ernest Murrell (1903-1986) crusaded for women's rights, but not in Wyoming. By 1932 she had earned a law degree from the University of Miami. Practicing in Florida with her husband John Murrell, she specialized in women's legal issues. That led to her long campaign for the "Florida Married Women's Act" that passed in 1943.

Simultaneously, she was also involved with campaigning to pass the first version of the Equal Rights Amendment, which had been introduced in Congress in 1923. She even toured the country in a sort of whistle-stop rail event with Eleanor Roosevelt, where Ethel argued for ERA passage, and Eleanor argued against. Groups including the LWV opposed ERA initially because they had worked so hard for legislation to protect women and children in factories and mines.

Ironically, Florida never ratified the 19th Amendment. It wasn't necessary because enough states had already ratified by the time they got around to discussing it. But Ethel's long history of being a fully enfranchised woman in Wyoming undoubtedly played a part in her feminist battles.

Her grandmother was Fannie Connor, who when she was widowed, built the Connor Hotel with her son. Ethel inherited the hotel, and the Murrells often summered here through the 1960s.

See more details, and a portrait, in the full Boomerang article by Judy Knight that appeared in the issue of February 11, 2017.

Judy Knight
LWVL Board Member

History Along The Railroad Tracks near Laramie : Ames Monument

Those of us who look south for a short distance during the drive between Laramie and Cheyenne on I80 can catch a glimpse of the Ames Monument, but not very many of the visitors passing through, nor even many local residents, know much about it. This is about to change: the Albany County Historic Preservation Board (a group of volunteers appointed by the county commissioners per a state statute passed in 1987) has submitted a successful nomination to the National Parks Service to make the Ames Monument a National Historic Landmark, and in December of last year the Secretary of the Interior signed the designation. There will be a dedication and attendant ceremonies July 7 and 8.

The Ames Monument was built in 1881 and 1882 at the then highest point on the transcontinental railroad to honor the achievements of Oakes and Oliver Ames, who were extremely influential in the construction and financing of the railroad between Council Bluffs, Iowa and Promontory Point, Utah. It is 60 feet high and made of part of an outcropping called "Reed's Rock", and as many high school and college students in the 1940s through the 1980s, it is hollow inside. It was possible to get inside until about 1 year ago, when the State Parks department sealed it up to prevent damage from vandalism. Visitors can also see the remains of the old roundhouse turntable, the ticket office and other structures, which form part of the town of Sherman, which in the early years of the railroad was an important shipping station for cattle going to market.

The railroad route was moved about 3 miles south some years later, but from the monument it is possible to see remnants of the old route, the "Y" for turning trains around, and the geologic structure which provided a gradual enough gradient to enable the steam engines of the time to make it to the summit of that point of the Laramie Range. There will soon be interpretive signs and other information at the site for those who want a little more than the bare minimum. It's worth a visit—on a warm day!

Amy Williamson
LWVL Board Member

co-President	Terri Rittenburg (2017)
co-President	Robin Hill (2017)
Vice President	Nancy Lockwood (2018)
Treasurer	Katie Morgan (2018)
Secretary	Mandira Sanyal (2017)
Elected Directors	Amy Williamson (2017)
	Cindy Elrod (2018)**
	Jean Garrison(2017)**
	Lynne Ipiña (2018)
	Martha Pheneger (2018)
	Jo-Carol Ropp (2017)
Appointed Directors	Judith Snoke (2017)
	Sidney Walter (2017)
Off-Board	Margaret Brown – State MLD liaison*
	Susan Simpson, Backup secretary, communications
	Judy Knight - Observer Corp Co-ordinator, Backup secretary, community forums, MLD Coach*
	Catherine Ryan Mental health issues

LWVUS Liaison: Jessica Rohloff, JRohloff@lww.org

Laramie LWV e-mail address: laramielwv@wyominglww.org

** Local MLD Coach;

* State MLD Coach

LWV Proposed Laramie FY 18 Proposed Budget	FY17 Budget	FY17 Estimate	FY18 Budget	
Checking Account:				
Est Beginning Balance April 1, 2017	\$5,338.00			
Est Ending Balance March 31, 2018	\$3,880.00			
Ed Fund				
Ed Education Fund Balance April 1, 2017	\$893.00			
Ed Education Fund Balance March 31, 2018	\$993.00			
Income				
Dues	\$2,300.00	\$2,435.00	\$2,495.00	
Contributions				
Member	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	
Nonmember	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Fundraiser Lunch	\$2,600.00	\$3,346.00	\$3,000.00	
Donation for Ed Fund	\$200.00	\$114.00	\$300.00	
Draw from Ed Fund	\$800.00	\$900.00	\$0.00	
Meetings & Programs				
LOOK Sales				
LOOK Sales Tax				
Income Subtotals	\$6,300.00	\$6,995.00	\$5,995.00	
Expenses				
Board & Administrative				
President	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Secretary	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	
Treasurer & Audit	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	
Membership	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	
Annual Brunch and Auction	\$1,500.00	\$1,698.00	\$1,600.00	
Website	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$240.00	
Delegate Expense				
National Convention/Council	\$1,500.00	\$395.00	\$1,500.00	
State Convention	\$500.00	\$35.00	\$500.00	
League Support				
State PMP	\$720.00	\$720.00	\$720.00	Note 1
National PMP	\$1,417.00	\$1,296.00	\$1,468.00	Note 2
Contribution LWV-WY	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$100.00	
Contribution to LWV Ed. Fund	\$200.00	\$114.00	\$300.00	
Programs				
Voter Service	\$1,200.00	\$1,526.12	\$400.00	
Voter Postage & Copies	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	
Publications (LOOK, Impact)	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
LOOK Sales for LWV WY				
Expense Subtotals	\$8,147.00	\$6,549.12	\$7,473.00	
Note 1				
48 Total X \$15 per member				
Note 2				
44 Primary X \$32 per member + 4 Household X \$15				

**LWV of Laramie
Proposed Program 2017-2018**

1. Planning

- a. Support a master plan for the city, and support county planning and zoning. (adopted c. 1985)
- b. Support adequately funded, diverse recreational activities and open space. (reworded 2010)

2. Government (unless noted, positions date to 2000 or earlier)

- a. Support city council/manager form of government.
- b. Support election of Laramie City Council members from three wards of three councilors each. (adopted 2011)
- c. Support measures to identify and report potential conflicts of interest by elected and appointed officials. (reworded 2010, 2017)
- d. Support a process of filling vacancies on both appointed and elected boards and commissions in Albany County which includes an open application and interview process, a choice from the applications submitted, materials and training to prepare them to serve. In addition, for elected boards, support a process that ensures voter choice even in the case of unexpected vacancies. (reworded 2014)
- e. ~~Support maintaining and increasing City and County revenues.~~ (restored 2015, deleted 2017)
- e. Emergency Preparedness: Support policies and programs to ensure that people in Albany County can be adequately notified and aided in the event of local emergencies in order to assure their health and safety. (adopted 2008; reworded 2010, 2011)
- f. Support diversity in make-up of all appointed boards and commissions based on gender and other forms of diversity (adopted 2017).

3. Human Resources (unless noted, positions date to 2000 or earlier)

- a. Support comprehensive physical and mental health care and planning for community health needs. (reworded 2011)
- b. Support educational efforts in areas including, but not limited to, stewardship of democracy, affirming diversity, disability awareness, literacy, parenting/life skills, discipline/respect, health care and sexuality, conflict resolution, suicide-prevention, anti-bullying, anti-violence, and dangers of substance abuse. (reworded in 2010, 2016)
- c. Support affordable full-time, after school, drop-in and sick-child care for preschool and primary school age children in Albany County. (adopted in 2000)
- d. Support income-sensitive housing in Albany County, with an emphasis on needs of the very low income and special needs populations. Support the development of minimum standards of health, sanitation, and safety in rental housing. (adopted 2002, "income sensitive" added in 2008, reworded 2011)
- e. Support smoke-free workplaces in the community. (adopted 2004)
- f. Support employment and housing practices that do not allow discrimination.

4. Crime (unless noted, positions date to 2000 or earlier)

- a. Encourage the coordination of local service efforts in the areas of crime prevention, early intervention and treatment services. (adopted 1994)
- b. Encourage community efforts to emphasize the connection between substance abuse and both personal injury/accidental death and crime in Albany County. (reworded 2011)

5. Transportation

- a. Support adequate bus service to meet the needs of the community. Support adequate funding to maintain this service.
- b. Support multi-modal transportation in Albany County, with adequate provisions and enforcement for safe pedestrian, bicycle, bus and automobile traffic. Support bike path marking and maintenance. (adopted 2006; reworded 2010, 2011)
- c. Support convenient and reliable public access to interstate and intra-state transportation by public carriers. (adopted 2005)
- d. Support a transportation master plan for Laramie and Albany County with annual review and provision for adequate input by local citizens. (adopted 2006, reworded 2011)

Study on County Commissioners

The Laramie LWV will conduct a feasibility study of increasing county commissioners from 3 to 5 members.

LWV of Laramie
Voter Editor: Mandira Sanyal
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BECOME A MEMBER OF THE LARAMIE LWV

If you receive this newsletter and are not already a LWV member, we welcome you to join. Fill in the information below and mail it to Katie Morgan, Treasurer, to begin your annual membership. When you join the Laramie LWV, you are also joining the LWV of Wyoming and LWVUS, which connects you with members all over the country and you will receive their publications. Check out the Laramie and Wyoming LWV at www.wyominglwv.org and LWVUS at www.LWV.org.

LWV Laramie Membership form (Membership open to any citizen of voting age)

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

CIRCLE AMOUNT ENCLOSED

\$60.00 (single person annual membership), \$90.00 (two persons residing at the same address)

\$30.00 (student annual membership)

Mail to: Laramie LWV Treasurer Katie Morgan
412 S. 10th St., A, Laramie, WY 82070

Questions? Call Co-President Terri Rittenburg at 343-2540 or Email tritt@uwyo.edu; Co-President Robin Hill at 742-6148 or Email rkayhill@gmail.com