



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
ARAPAHOE AND DOUGLAS
COUNTIES COLORADO

February 2016

Membership 79

FEBRUARY meetings

Unit Meetings: Program Planning see info page 2.

Thursday, February 4 at 5 p.m. Rendezvous Restaurant in Heather Gardens, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way, Aurora

Monday, February 8 at 5:30 p.m. at Garcia's Mexican Restaurant, 5050 S. Syracuse St., Belleview & Syracuse streets NE corner in the Denver Tech Center

Thursday, February 11 at 9:30 10 a.m. at Castlewood Library, 6739 S. Uinta, Centennial Arapahoe Rd just east of I-25 SW corner

LWVADC Movie: **February 18** Merchants of Doubt 6:30pm Koelbel Library, 5955 S. Holly See more info on page 2 Holly and Orchard SW corner

Lunch Bunch, February 24, Nordstrom Park Meadows 3rd floor 6&Pine Restaurant

See info page 3.

Great Decisions: Every **Friday beginning February 5**, 10am Southglenn Library at the Streets of Southglenn .

See more info page 3

MARCH meetings

No Unit meetings. **General Meeting Wednesday March 30** at Koelbel Library, 5955 So. Holly On Human Trafficking. More next month

LWVADC Movie: March 23 Chosen

UNIT MEETINGS:

Our February units will be devoted to what League calls “program planning”. This process entails a review of existing positions, in this case local and national positions, to recommend that we retain, revise/update, or drop each position. This year we will also be asked to consider the following items:

- Proposal from LWVUS that, rather than undertaking new studies this biennium, the national organization focus its efforts the next two years on Making Democracy Work through action supporting efforts to facilitate voter rights and voter protection at local, state and federal levels, and reforming money in politics.
- A proposal from LWVCO that LWVUS at its 2016 convention concur with the LWVCO’s recent position on Behavioral Health
- A proposal from Tacoma-Pierce County LWV that LWVUS update two positions: global climate change and equality of opportunity.
 - Global Climate Change. Add language to our current positions in all four categories (Representative Government, International Relations, Natural Resources, and Social Policy) to recognize the impacts of climate change, and help mobilize positive action toward community resiliency in the face of climate change.
 - Equality of Opportunity. Change current position “...equality of opportunity for education, employment and housing for all persons in the United States regardless of their race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation or disability.” to “...equality of opportunity in all aspects of society for all persons in the United States, regardless of their race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability.” (p. 65, [Impact on Issues, 2014-2016](#))
- A proposal from LWV/Boulder County that LWV consider adopting a gender-neutral name for the 21st Century.
- Do we want to propose new national or local studies?

Are there topics on which, even if we do not do a study, you would like to have more information—perhaps at unit, all-member or public meetings?

In order to be prepared for the February unit meeting, please review our LWVADC local positions and national positions:

http://lwvarapahoedouglas.org/LWV_POSITIONS.html and <http://lww.org/content/impact-issues-2014-2016-online-edition> .

When you arrive at your unit, take a few minutes to visit with each other, while you enjoy a beverage and order at the dinner meetings or while you have a cup of coffee and a nibble at the Thursday morning meeting. Perhaps share your thoughts on LWV positions that you particularly support or think are no longer needed, on which you would like to see more action, or that surprised you..

If you have questions, please contact Sonya Pennock, sonsu@earthlink.net.

LWVADC Movie

Merchants of Doubt is a 2014 documentary that traces the use of public relations tactics that were originally developed by the tobacco industry to protect their business from the research that revealed the health risks of smoking. This included the use of “scientists” and others who successfully cast doubt on the scientific results. This method was also used to dispute the risk of the toxic effects of flame retardants, and now is used to forestall action to eliminate greenhouse gases, and dispute climate change.

These viewpoints are often illustrated via a professional magician who demonstrates the illusions they use to distract and manipulate the audience.

The film has received favorable reviews from many movie critics, although some have said the film is almost a too-polished takedown of America’s spin factory. What’s your Take? Join us on Thursday, February 18 @ 6:30 p.m. at the Koelbel library theater forum and voice your opinions. Bring your own beverage and we’ll provide the snacks. Food also available at the library snack bar.

LUNCH BUNCH is an informal get together of members who would like to just chat and maybe discuss issues. No reservations are needed, just show up and enjoy the food and the company. Restaurants vary . Contact Vickie Harimon if you need more info at vickiharimon@aol.com or 303-770-8738.

GREAT DECISIONS:

The popular Great Decisions program begins February 5th at 10 a.m. at Southglenn library in the Streets of Southglenn. Program participants will meet every Friday for eight weeks to discuss a variety of international events and crucial global issues as presented by the Foreign Policy Association. The program is free and open to the public, but participants are urged to use the Policy's Great Decisions topic book. Topics this year are

The Middle East
The Rise of ISIS
The Future of Kurdistan
Migration
The Koreas
The United Nations
Climate Change
Cuba and the U.S.

For more information contact Vicki Harimon vickieharimon@aol.com or 303-770-8738 or Monique Hea at heamph@hotmail.com or 303-220-9273.

DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT! Participate in your precinct caucus

While the political ads and candidate announcements have begun, the **official** start of the 2016 election season kicks off at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, 2016. That's the date of Colorado's grassroots political process: The Precinct Caucus.

Unlike some states, which conduct primary elections, Colorado conducts precinct caucuses. This process gives members of political parties the opportunity to meet, debate issues and nominate candidates to represent them on the 2016 election ballot. At caucus meetings attendees

- speak on behalf of their favorite candidates
- vote for their favorites
- elect delegates to the next political countywide Assemblies and Convention

This year caucus participants will select candidates for Colorado State Treasurer, Secretary of State, and Attorney General, as well as those individuals vying for US. Senate and Congressional seats and Colorado Legislators and County officials

Anyone who is a registered voter in one of Colorado's major political parties (Republican, Democrat, and American Constitution) can attend and participate. Colorado does not allow unaffiliated (independent) voters to participate. Caucuses are held in homes, schools, churches or other gathering places convenient to a voter's home or residence, but nowadays they are usually held in large facilities. Registration was needed ;by January 4.

To find the location of your caucus contact the following political parties. The League of Women Voters urges you to participate in this grassroots program. Every voter needs to be involved in the election process.

Contacts:

Arapahoe County Republicans www.arapahoerepublicans.org 303-779-1115

Arapahoe County Democrats www.arapahoedems.org 302-338-1202

Douglas County Republicans www.dcgop.org/caucus_locations

Douglas County Democrats www.douglasdemocrats.org 720-509-9038

**The League of Women Voters
of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties**

5776 S. Crocker Street

Littleton, Colorado 80120 303-730-2356

Website: www.lwvarapahoedouglas.org

email: lwvarapahoeinfo@gmail.com

Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/LWV-Arapahoe-Douglas>

LWVADC MANAGEMENT TEAM

Sonya Pennock Program

303-794-0430 sonsu@earthlink.net

Alice Ramsey Secretary & Key Contact

303-841-7839 alice@ramsisle.com

Marilyn Ayers, Treasurer

303-471-8301 mk303@comcast.net

Jo Ann Feder Membership

904-608-3932 jolvs10s@gmail.com

Marlu Burkamp PR/Communications

303-798-2939 marluburkamp@gmail.com

Vicki Harimon Voter Services Coordinator

303-770-8738 vickiharimon@aol.com

Fern Black, Member At-Large/Legislative

303-793-0807 blackwatch5@hotmail.com

Deb Armbruster, Member At-Large/Program

303-770-5505 darmbr@aol.com

Maggi Markey, Member At-Large/Program

704-661-9072 maggimarkey@mindspring.com

Barbara Dungey, Member At-Large/website

720-253-6629 Barbara.b.dungey@gmail.com

Gladys Hodges, Member At-Large/Voter registration

915-525-4982 hgladys5066@yahoo.com

Mission

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

Join Us

Join the League to help make your community a strong, safe, and vibrant place to live. Help shape the important issues that affect you and your family.

Memberships are \$60 per individual; \$85 for households and \$25 for students. For more information call Jo Ann Feder, 904-608-3932, jolvs10s@gmail.com

League Links

League of Women Voters/Colorado

1410 Grant, B-204

Denver, Colorado 80203

303-863-0437 or 1-800-863-8683

info@lwvcolorado.org

www.lwvcolorado.org

League of Women Voters/US

1730 M Street NW, Suite 1000

Washington, DC 20036-4508

202-429-1965

lwv@lwv.org

www.lwv.org