

THE VOTER

April 2018 Issue

The League of Women Voters of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties

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UNIT MEETINGS -

Topic, Date, Time and Location Details

Unit Discussion Topic: **Threats to Public Lands**

This month's League of Women Voters of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties combined meeting will feature guest speaker **Josh Kuhn from Conservation Colorado with his presentation on Threats to Public Lands.**

Did you know that a significant portion of the land area of Colorado—over 35%--is public land? These public lands include state and national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, monuments, wilderness areas, and lands with multiple uses such as grazing, logging, and resource development. Public lands have a substantial impact on the Colorado economy. Studies show that people come to Colorado and choose to stay here because of the quality of life tied to public lands.

Polls repeatedly show that Colorado voters value these public lands. Nonetheless, these public lands are threatened by efforts at the state and national level to weaken the protection of land, water and wildlife, transfer public land out of public ownership, open more public land to mineral development, logging and other commercial activities.

Our April meeting will be a combined unit meeting, Monday, April 9th, 5:30 pm at Las Brisas. Please join us as we learn about the public lands in our state. Josh Kuhn of Conservation Colorado will take us on a tour of public lands in Colorado and tell us about the conflicting visions for their use and the threats they face.

All current and prospective members are invited to attend any unit meetings.

Contact Maggi Markey for more information -
Email: maggimarkey@gmail.com



COMBINED UNIT MEETING

Monday, April 9 @ 5:00 PM

[Las Brisas Mexican Restaurant](#)
[Clinton Shoppette](#)
[6787 S. Clinton St.](#)
[Englewood, CO 80112](#)

Las Brisas is southeast of I-25 and Arapahoe Rd.
Go south on Clinton St from Arapahoe Rd. It's next door to Target.

There will be a 20% gratuity and individual checks.

Contact Jo Feder for more information -
Email: joluvs10@gmail.com



COMMITTEES & OTHER MEETINGS-

Topic, Date, Time & Location Details



GREAT DECISIONS

Friday, April 13 @ 9:30 AM

Bring a "hot topic" to discuss with the group!

[Southglenn Library](#), Meeting Room A
[6972 S Vine St](#)
[Centennial, CO 80122](#)

The League of Women Voters of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties **Great Decisions** group will meet weekly starting February 2 to begin this year's study course. This is the perfect time to get involved with Great Decisions.

Great Decisions is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties. One does not have to be a member of League to attend the meetings. It is open to anyone who would like to discuss foreign policy in a nonpartisan environment.

The Foreign Policy Association publishes a book with eight topics and presents information in an objective, nonpartisan format. Discussion of each of these topics takes eight weeks. "FPA seeks to ventilate the issues and to contribute to a national conversation on U.S. Foreign Policy." In 2018, FPA will be celebrating 100 years.

Contact Vicki Harimon or Monique Hea for more information -

Vicki Harimon
Email: vickiharimon@aol.com

Monique Hea
Email: heamph@hotmail.com



KNOW YOUR DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMITTEE

Know Your County Committee: Location and date
not set.

All members of the LWVACD are welcome to
attend.

Contact Maggi Markey for more information -
Email: maggimarkey@gmail.com



LUNCH
LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, April 25 @ 11:30 AM

Chili's Restaurant
[6646 South Parker Road](#)
[Aurora CO 80016](#)
303-690-8480

The restaurant is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Parker Road and Arapahoe Road.

Reservations are not needed.

Contact Vicki Harimon for more information -
Email: vickiharimon@aol.com



MANAGEMENT TEAM

Monday, April 23 @ 6:30 PM

[Castlewood Public Library](#)
Castlewood Conference Room
[6739 S. Uinta St.](#)
[Centennial, CO 80112](#)



WATER & CLIMATE CHANGE

Topic: Colorado Drought

Wednesday, April 18 @ 1:00 PM

Location TBD

All members of the LWVACD are welcome to attend.

*Contact Maggi Markey for more information -
Email: maggimarkey@gmail.com*



VOTER REGISTRATION -

LWVADC Voter Registration Services & March Voter Registration Dates

EVENTS AT USCIS FIELD OFFICES

During the month of March, LWVADC conducted 5 Voter Registration Drives at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Center.

Eight circulators (several worked multiple drives) assisted 79 new citizens whose applications were submitted to 14 County Clerks in Colorado and one in Wyoming. One

more Drive will be held on March 26. Those results will be reported next month. Three League members from Jefferson County trained with us on Mar. 22.

A Social Studies instructor from Regis High School has invited LWVADC to conduct a VRD on April 12 for his Senior students age 16 and over. Arapahoe County Clerk Matt Crane has given approval for this Drive. An estimated 200 students are expected to participate using their individual iPads.

Efforts to recruit an Agent to conduct VRDs in West Arapahoe County have not produced results. Marlu Burkamp has volunteered to assist Marilyn Ayers until someone can be found to fill the position of Agent in Douglas County. Paula Moore is the Agent for East Arapahoe/Heather Gardens.

Below are the April ceremony dates. Ceremonies are at 2 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, April 4

Tuesday, April 10

Monday, April 16

Friday, April 20 @ 10 a.m.

Monday, April 23

Wednesday, April 25

Thursday, April 26

VOTER REGISTRATION TRAINING: CIRCULATORS

Members of LWVADC are cordially invited to participate in Making Democracy Work by volunteering to serve as "Circulators".

You only need to view a short training video/slide shown on the website of the Colorado Secretary of State and fill out the Training Acknowledgment document found there. Circulators almost without exception find assisting newly-sworn in citizens to register to vote to be a patriotically inspiring and enjoyable experience.

To participate and for more instructions about certifying for this important contribution, contact Gladys Hodges, hgladys5066@yahoo.com or 915-525-4982.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

League of Women Voters of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties members are asked to volunteer for the **Voter Registration Drive** for seniors age 16 and up arranged by the high school Social Studies Dept.

Thursday, April 12

Regis High School
[6300 S. Lewiston Way](#)
[Aurora, CO 80016](#)

Contact Gladys Hodges for more information -
Email: hgladys5066@yahoo.com



HELP WANTED -

Voter Service & Movie Night

VOTER SERVICE

No Experience Necessary! Anyone Is Welcome!

Want to help educate citizens so they can make informed choices and get involved in

our democracy?

Our Voter Service Committee needs many helping hands. Voter Service is a major League contribution, organizing candidate forums, providing nonpartisan information on registration, candidates, ballot measures, voting rights and effective ways to influence public policy and many other critical duties.

MOVIE NIGHT

Do you appreciate documentaries about issue that are important to you and probably to most Leaguers? Koelbel Library even has a movie room with large chairs and screen.

If you would be interested in helping out with this let Alice know. We could use a couple of people to help with this.

Contact Alice Ramsey for more information -

Email: alice@ramsisle.com

Phone: 303-841-7839

MANAGEMENT TEAM 2018-2020 OPEN POSITIONS

The League has several openings for Management Team positions for 2018-2020. We'd love to tap into your talents, passion, and knowledge to help the League grow and stay vital. One of the most important positions in this election year is Voter Services. Another is the member-at-large/voter registration drives. Several other positions may open up soon. A one-year position is as the 2019 nominating committee chair.

If you would like to join Management Team, or you'd like more information, please email Kris Chipps (kwchipps66@gmail.com) or Jo Feder (joluvs10s@gmail.com). If you know someone who'd be a great addition, tell us so that we can chat with him/her.

UPCOMING GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE FORUM

You're Invited!

Gubernatorial Candidate Forum

Republican Candidates, Wednesday, April 11

Democratic Candidates, Thursday, April 12

Lakewood Cultural Center
470 S Allison Pkwy
(near Wadsworth & Alameda)

7:00 pm – arrive by 6:15 pm

Host: Channel 9 News

Consultation with the League of Women Voters

No political messaging allowed – no signs, buttons, clothing, etc.

SAVE THE DATE - LWVADC ANNUAL MEETING



LWVADC Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 9 from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Zink Kitchen
Double Tree Hotel
7801 E. Orchard Rd.
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

All members are encouraged to attend. This is the meeting where we -

- Elect Management Team members
- Approve the budget
- Approve any new local program(s)
- Conduct other business as needed.

Amber Vasek of the US Customs and Immigration Services will be our guest speaker.

More details next month.

LWVCO GRANT AWARD



A big Thank You to Gerry Cummins for her work in successfully applying for a pass-through grant of \$900 to support voter registration at naturalization ceremonies.

Congratulations Gerry, we appreciate all your work to support this important cause.

YOUNG PEOPLE IN SERVICE TO VOTERS

LWVCO is looking for young people who are interested in collaborating and learning more about how to provide unbiased non-partisan information on statewide and local candidates and ballot issues in the 2018 general election.

It is critical that information about the candidates is carefully compiled and widely distributed so that every voter can make an informed decision.

Some Volunteer Activities -

- Assist with voter registration drives
- Distribute Voters' Guides and ballot pamphlets
- Be trained in the use of VOTE411
- Enter offices, candidate information and questions for candidates
- Track candidate responses
- Enter ballot questions and initiatives

This program will be run on a local level.

Interested leagues should contact:

Diana Haskell
Email: haskelldiana@verizon.net
Phone: 919-414-6869

LWVADC NEW & PROSPECTIVE MEMBER COFFEE



Monday, April 16, 2018
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

[Salsa Brava](#)
[52 Springer Dr.Highlands](#)
[Ranch, CO 80129](#)

Please rsvp to Jo Feder, 904-608-3932 or joluvs10s@gmail.com

Coffee, tea or soft drink will be served but feel free to order dinner at this excellent restaurant.

Directions: Off Broadway south of C-470. If you are coming south, it will be a right hand turn onto Springer Dr. just before Wells Fargo. If you are going north, turn left onto Plaza Dr., right onto Centennial Blvd. and right again onto Springer Dr. Turn right immediately past Wells Fargo. Wells Fargo Bank is several stories tall so it makes a good landmark.

Contact Jo Feder for more information -

Email: joluvs10@gmail.com

Phone: 904-608-3932

2018 COLORADO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The LWVCO Legislative Action Committee meets biweekly during the legislative session to review pending bills in light of established League policy positions. Decisions to support, oppose, or “watch” bills are arrived at by consensus after reviewing all information available at the time.

A Legislative Letter is written by the members of the Legislative Action Committee and published every two weeks during the Legislative Session. To receive a full copy, contact the League Office at info@lwvcolorado.org or 303-863-0437 for information about rates and delivery.

[Updates on bills highlighted last month -](#)

HEALTHCARE: HB 1009 Diabetes Drug Pricing Transparency Act 2018 (support)

Status: Pending

EDUCATION: HB 1232 New School Funding Distribution Formula (support)

Status: Pending

HEALTHCARE: HB 1179 Prohibit Price Gouging On Drugs (support)

Status: Pending

NATURAL RESOURCES: HB 1157 Increased Reporting Oil and Gas Incidents

(support)

Status: Pending

[A Few New Bills -](#)

**NATURAL RESOURCES: HB 1274 Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050
(support)**

The bill requires that by the year 2050, statewide greenhouse gas emissions be reduced by at least 80% of the levels of greenhouse gas emissions that existed in the year 2005. The bill is a basis for Colorado lawmakers' planning. It invites collaboration to reduce Colorado's greenhouse gas emissions in order to help limit the global average temperature increase to between 1½ to 2 degrees Celsius. This planning will also reduce other pollutants for our health and safety. Climate policies can spur innovation, investments in less polluting technology, and allow a transition to a modern, resilient, and economically vibrant society.

League shares this vision and goal because it believes that these energy objectives and policies acknowledge the U.S.A. as a responsible member of the world community. We believe in preserving the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem with maximum protection of public health and the environment.

EDUCATION: HB 1217 Income Tax Credit for 529 Contributions (watch)

This bill would provide employers with a tax credit when they make a contribution to an employee's 529 qualifying savings plan administered by CollegeInvest. The credit is available from tax years 2019 to 2021.

The bill was improved after Colorado Fiscal Institute pointed out that the families most needing help from such a plan rarely have the resources for making such investments. The amendment restricts such credits to those with incomes at or below the median wage.

The League is not generally in favor of tax credits. Their usefulness is frequently limited, especially given Colorado's limited tax resources. While employees would be taxed on the additional income, employers would gain a double benefit – a tax deduction for employee wages and the tax credit for the contribution to the 529. Another concern is how this bill interacts with the law recently passed by Congress that would allow the use of 529 funds for K-12 private school tuition. We are still working on a definitive answer to this question. League has had a position opposing vouchers/tax credits for non-public schools since 1976.



ONGOING INITIATIVES-

King Soopers Cards, Observers Corp,
Equipment Log, Chapter Contact Info



KING SOOPERS CARDS - FUNDRAISING MADE EASY

Cards will be available at Meetings. **Don't buy them at the store directly**, our League won't get the credit for those cards.

Contact Ann Roux for more information -

Email: landaroux@comcast.net

Phone: 303-674-7163



January	February	March	April
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May	June	July	August
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14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
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September	October	November	December
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10 11 12 13 14 15 16	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16
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FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

An up-to-date calendar of all monthly meetings and events can be found [here](#).



HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

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 dues -

- \$60 per individual
- \$85 for house-holds
- \$25 for students

Contact Jo Feder for more information -

Email: joluvs10@gmail.com

Phone: 904-608-3932



LEAGUE INFO & MISSION, VISION & VALUE STATEMENTS

To learn more about how to contact our League and management members, click [here](#).

Mission Statement:

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Vision Statement:

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

Value Statement:

We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

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Our mailing address is:

6 Augusta Dr., Littleton, CO 80123

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