



# Colorado Voter

Volume 31, Number 1, November 2017

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF COLORADO  
*Educate, Advocate, Impact!*

## **LWVCO Legislative Conference** **Monday, January 29, 2018**

*Registration Deadline: Friday, January 19, 2018*

Speakers have been invited to discuss National Popular Vote, Campaign Finance and Renewables. There will be training on TRACER and Twitter, and a Legislative update.

**Scottish Rite Temple**  
1370 Grant St, Denver, 80203

**Doors open at 8am**  
Program will begin at 8:30am and run until 2:30pm  
Continental Breakfast 8am - 9am  
Buffett Lunch Noon - 1pm (Offering two entrees, salad and dessert)

**\$45 per person**

Check payable to LWVCO or Online Charge Card at [www.lwvcolorado.org](http://www.lwvcolorado.org)  
*Please send a Registration Form regardless of payment type (See below).*

## **LWVCO Legislative Conference Registration Form** **Monday, January 29, 2018**

DEADLINE FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018

Registration Fee: \$45.00 includes program, breakfast and lunch.

*SEND THIS FORM (via mail, email or fax) REGARDLESS OF PAYMENT TYPE.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Local League: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address / Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Options:

- CHECK payable to LWVCO
- ONLINE CHARGE CARD at [www.lwvcolorado.org](http://www.lwvcolorado.org) (Events)

**SEND THIS FORM (via mail, email or fax) REGARDLESS OF PAYMENT TYPE.**

Mail: LWVCO, 1410 Grant Street, Suite B204, Denver, CO 80203-1855

Email: [info@lwvcolorado.org](mailto:info@lwvcolorado.org)

Fax: 303-837-9917

## Board of Directors 2017-2018

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### *Colorado Voter, November 2017*

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## Update on your Board of Directors

There have been many changes to your Board since the Convention in May. Nancy Crow has tendered her resignation as president of the League of Women Voters of Colorado, and her resignation has been accepted. The Board thanks Nancy for all the things she has done for the League over the years and hopes she will continue to be active in the organization. First Vice President Toni Larson will now fill the position.

Due to personal reasons, Jean McGuire, Lisa Forbes and Linda Reinhart have also left the Board. We also thank these former Board members for their work for the League and hope to see them in the future working just as tirelessly.

The Board welcomes Jeanette Scotland and Andrea Mitchell, who will be sharing the position of Secretary. We also welcome Jeannette Hillery to the position of Legislative Action Chair, and Deb Gard, who is the chair-elect for the Legislative Action Committee.

The remainder of your Board is committed to engaging active participation in government and serving the voters of Colorado with our advocacy work and voter education.



### **More changes - New Office Administrator!**

Beth Sale is delighted to be the new Office Administrator for League of Women Voters of Colorado. Beth comes to LWVCO from her previous position at Escuela de Guadalupe, a dual language elementary

school in Denver, where she was Operations Manager for the past five years. She is also co-owner and business manager of James Sale Lighting Design, Inc., a residential and commercial lighting design firm. With a performing arts background, Beth has been production manager for both Opera Colorado and Colorado Ballet, as well as education director for Colorado Symphony and Opera Colorado. Prior to moving to Denver, Beth taught Speech and Theater at Holland Hall preparatory school in Tulsa, OK. Beth has a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Education from the University of Tulsa. She has two children; daughter Allie is a senior at American University in Washington, D.C. and her son Eliot is a senior at Dakota Ridge High School.



**Support The League of Women Voters of  
Colorado by  
donating to us on Colorado Gives Day,  
December 5, 2017**

Colorado Gives Day is an annual statewide opportunity to increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving. For the 8<sup>th</sup> year, Community First Foundation and FirstBank are partnering to present this year's event. Donations are accepted through ColoradoGives.org. Click on "League of Women Voters of Colorado" and it is an easy process to make your on-line donation.

Colorado Gives Day features a \$1 million incentive fund. Every nonprofit receiving a donation on Colorado Gives Day receives a portion of the incentive fund, which increases the value of every dollar donated. Starting on November 1, donations can be made ahead of time and counted in to the final total by using the button labeled "CO Gives Day."

Our goal is to raise \$7,500 to support **LWVCO** through this year's Colorado Gives Day donations. So mark your calendars, and "Give Where You Live" on December 5, 2017.

**GIVE TO LWVCO!**

Gifts of all types and sizes are always appreciated by LWVCO. Aside from major fund-raising campaigns like Colorado Gives Day, there are several on-going ways to give. One way is through an honorarium, giving money in someone's name. For example, if you have a family member who was active in League, remember them on their birthday by giving a donation in their name. Sadly we lose beloved members of our League community each year. In lieu of flowers, honor their memory with a donation to their state and/or local League.

The Advocacy Appeal was mailed in early November. Please give generously to support our advocacy work at the Capitol. You can visit our website or mail a check to the Denver office. Thanks for your support!

**ADVOCACY TRAINING IN DECEMBER**

The Legislative Action Committee (LAC) is preparing for the 2018 Colorado Legislative session which starts January 10, 2018. Our annual orientation/lobbyist training will be held on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the Montview Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St., Denver CO 80220. All LAC members, new and returning are urged to attend. We will be learning how to approach our legislators in person, by phone, by mail, email and Twitter. We will go over submissions to the biweekly Legislative Letter, which we will be streamlining this year. We are in need of a couple of people to assist with voting methods and voting rights. More information at the training.

If you would like to join the LAC, please contact, Jeannette Hillery at 303-494-7718. We meet every other Friday at the LWVCO office, 1410 Grant St., B204, Denver, from 9:00 am to noon during the Legislative session (January to May).



*Thinking of donating your car to LWVCO? The form is simple and the people are polite and prompt. Check out the LWVCO website at <http://www.vehiclesforcharity.org/Donate/LWV.html> for more information!*

## REGISTERING NEW CITIZENS

Early last spring, the League of Women Voters began conducting Voter Registration Drives (VRD) at Naturalization Ceremonies at the United States Citizen Immigration Services (USCIS) office in Centennial, CO. Spearheaded by Gladys Hodges of LWV Arapahoe/Douglas, League members from Arapahoe/Douglas, Jefferson County and Denver have registered over 325 new citizens since the project began. Ceremonies are held throughout each month. The USCIS office handles the process for citizen naturalization for all of Colorado and for Cheyenne, WY.

The newly naturalized citizens represent countries from around the globe with about 25 countries represented at each ceremony. We have been fortunate that some of our League members are fluent in Spanish to facilitate some of the registrations. Most new citizens are fluent in English and are also adept at using technology to register online.

USCIS assigns the dates for various groups to provide voter registration opportunities each month. As the lead election office in Colorado, the Secretary of State's office gets the first choice of dates. The League has been assigned between 3 – 8 dates in any given month. We have 3 people who are VRD coordinators. Those assisting with this project take the six-minute VRD circulator training available online on the Secretary of State's website. These are all requirements to conduct a Voter Registration Drive.

Not to be overlooked....LWV Estes Park assisted in registering voters at a Naturalization Ceremony held in Rocky Mountain National Park in August. They were able to organize and get materials within a week after the Secretary of State's office said that they would be unable to cover the ceremony.

At a recent ceremony, I asked how many new citizens are naturalized in a year. I was told that it ranges between 8,000 – 10,000 people annually in the Colorado office.

Congratulations new citizens!



## COLORADO STATISTICS

Excerpt from Secretary of State Wayne Williams:

Voter registration numbers in Colorado are at a record high despite the recently publicized voter withdrawals.

As of this morning, August 24, there are 25,039 new or re-registered voters since June 28. This brings the total of registered voters in Colorado to 3,737,569 -- a new record.

Williams said, "I am pleased that Coloradans are engaged and I hope that citizens continue to register to vote using the many tools my office provides."

## NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE INTERSTATE COMPACT

LWVCO has started a collaboration with the grassroots organization, National Popular Vote Colorado (NPVC), to further our goal of Election Reform within our *Making Democracy Work* Colorado Goals. LWVCO will be advocating for the state of Colorado to join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. We will be working with NPVC to educate our members and our communities and to advocate for our position. This initiative will be featured at our Legislative Conference on January 29, 2018. You will be given a toolkit to take back to your community for your local league use. [Please join us on January 29 to learn more.](#) Follow NPVC's Facebook page to learn more about their educational events. And check out their website, [www.coloradonpv.org](http://www.coloradonpv.org).

## FOLLOW THE MONEY...TRACE COLORADO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS ONLINE!

TRACER <http://tracer.sos.colorado.gov/PublicSite/homepage.aspx>

**Transparency in Contribution and Expenditure Reporting** (TRACER) is the Colorado Secretary of State's online campaign finance filing system. Launched on January 4, 2010, TRACER contains campaign finance data for all state and county candidates, committees, and political parties in Colorado dating back to 2002. It is the system by which candidates, committees, and political parties enter their reports of contributions and expenditures.

You can **search the system in several ways** and review the results online, print them or extract them for further analysis. The Colorado Secretary of State's Office set up the system in response to the growing number of committees required to report contributions and expenditures, to increase the efficiency of data entry, provide more accurate data, enhance reporting capabilities and improve user navigation of the system. A remaining issue is how quickly disclosures are made. Too often, donations are only reported after an election has taken place.

According to the State of Colorado Campaign Finance Manual: *Candidates and candidate committees typically file on a "frequent" schedule during the election year, and an "infrequent" schedule during non-election years. "Election year" means the year in which the office appears on the ballot.*

Want to learn more, pull up the Manual from the SOS's office at

<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/CampaignFinance/files/CPFManual.pdf>

The screenshot shows the TRACER website homepage. At the top, there is a blue header with the Colorado Secretary of State logo and the name Wayne W. Williams. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for Search, Resources, Reports, and Quick Stats. On the left side, there is a sidebar with links for TRACER Home, Search, Resources, Reports, Quick Stats, Learn to Use TRACER, Committee Registration, and Candidate Affidavit. The main content area features a welcome message, a link to the Campaign Finance Manual (PDF), and a section for Contributions and Loans Filed in 2017. This section includes a pie chart and a table of data.

Contributions and Loans Filed in 2017	
Democratic Candidates	\$1,478,308.46
Republican Candidates	\$3,718,239.89
Issue Committees	\$215,393.40
All Others	\$7,030,635.17

Graph represents all contributions and loans that were included on reports filed in the current year.



## LWVCO SUPPORTS REDISTRICTING EFFORTS IN COLORADO

In January 2017, LWVCO passed a motion to add redistricting reform to their goals. A initial group was formed of current Board Members and staff based on this strong Board approval. To further our efforts, the group joined the Fair Districts Colorado (FDC) committee when it first was formed. Over the spring and summer, the group met and reports were given at each Board meeting. It has been stated that League is a valued as part of the FDC committee because of our reputation for fairness, non-partisanship and thoroughness. Being part of the FDC allows the League not only to leverage our work but to have a direct impact on what actions happen in our state.

Fair Districts Colorado is a Colorado issue coalition dedicated to developing and promoting nonpartisan redistricting reform in Colorado. The League representatives are Barbara Mattison, (Development Co-Chair & Past President) Jean Fredlund (Director At Large & Past LAC Chair), Andrea Wilkins (Staff Lobbyist) and Toni Larson (President & Past VP Program). The initial work of Linda Rinehart (Past LAC Chair) was greatly appreciated.

LWVCO is confident in the work of the FDC as they are using the League's Program Positions to formulate their initiatives along with their stated Principles. The state and national Leagues' Positions in Brief and FDC Principles are posted below for your reference. In October, the LWVCO Board reconfirmed their support of the work being done by the FDC with a vote of confidence.

Recently, FDC submitted three different ballot initiatives with the CO Title Board. The ballot initiative process is a long and difficult one. LWVCO believes that the ballot initiatives are a positive step forward in reforming Colorado's redistricting laws. LWVCO will update Local League Leaders of any pertinent developments and post the latest redistricting reform news on our website.

More information may be found at [LWVColorado.org](http://LWVColorado.org) on the HOME page. Please feel free to send any questions or concerns about the League's work on redistricting to the state League office. An LWVCO Board and/or a FDC Committee member will respond to your inquiry. Thank you for your support of this effort to Make Democracy Work.

### The Principles of FDC

- Redistricting should be done by an independent commission consisting, to the extent possible, equally of Republicans, Democrats, and Unaffiliated and non-major party members. It should reflect Colorado's geographic and racial/ethnic diversity. Both parties should have equal input on the composition of the commission, and processes should be put in place to ensure that neither party can gain control over the non major party members.
- The commission should be required to obtain a supermajority in order to pass any map.
- Maps should be drawn by nonpartisan staff, instead of political insiders.
- The commission and its staff should be guided by neutral, fair, good-government criteria in drawing maps, such as U.S. Constitutional requirements, the Federal Voting Rights Act, county and city integrity, compactness, communities of interest, and competitiveness. Districts should not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or disadvantaging any political party, candidate or incumbent.

The commission should be subject to transparency measures, such as citizen participation, open meetings and open records laws, sunshine laws, and adequate notice and timelines for participation.

Download LWVUS positions at:

<http://lwv.org/content/impact-issues-online-edition>

Read more about LWVCO's position on redistricting at:

<http://lwvcolorado.org/lwv/lwvco-positions-on-issues/>

# 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK DAY – SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

The first annual making Democracy Work Day, formerly known as League Day, was held on September 16, 2017. The event focused on dark money in politics, especially on the role the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) plays in State houses around the country. We were honored to host many esteemed speakers from around the country, including Lisa Graves from the Center for Media and Democracy, Caroline Fry from Colorado Common Cause and Representative Joann Ginal of Colorado House District 52. There is so much work to be done to remove the influence of dark money and gerrymandering from our elections. Find out what you can do to make a difference!



*Lisa Graves, Executive Director  
Center for Media and Democracy*



*Representative Joann Ginal  
CO House District 52*

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Subscribe to the ***Legislative Letter***  
and stay up to date during the 2018 Colorado legislative session

**Just \$30 for a subscription**

*The biweekly letter is created by the Legislative Action Committee and the staff lobbyist, who follow proposed legislation and analyze pending bills based on League positions.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Two payment options (\$30 annual subscription):

- Check made out to LWVCO
- PayPal at [www.lwvcolorado.org](http://www.lwvcolorado.org) (accepts all major credit cards)

1410 GRANT ST STE B204, DENVER CO 80203 • Fax 303-837-9917 • [info@lwvcolorado.org](mailto:info@lwvcolorado.org)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF  
 COLORADO  
 1410 GRANT ST STE B204  
 DENVER CO 80203-1855

## Mission

*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, promotes informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

## Interested in the League of Women Voters?

### Please join us!

*All persons 16 years of age and older are invited to join as voting members.  
 Those under 16 are welcome to join as associate members.*

Find a local League in your county or area by checking the LWVCO website at <http://lwvcolorado.org/lwv/local-leagues/> or contacting the LWVCO office.

If there is no local League in your county, we invite you to join LWVCO as a member-at-large (MAL). Annual dues are \$60. Please make your check payable to LWVCO or join online.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail the above form, with check, to:  
 LWVCO, 1410 Grant Street B204, Denver, Colorado 80203-1855 or pay online at  
<http://lwvcolorado.org/lwv/join/>

## Calendar

<b>Nov</b>	23-24	Thanksgiving holidays*
<b>Dec</b>	5	Colorado Gives Day
	7	Board meeting
	8	Lobbyist workshop (Montview Presbyterian Church)
	25-31	Christmas holidays*
<b>Jan</b>	10	General Assembly convenes
	15	Martin Luther King, Jr. day*
	19	Legislative Action Committee (LAC) meeting
	29	Legislative Conference
<b>Feb</b>	2	LAC meeting
	16	LAC meeting
	19	President's day*
		*Office closed