



THE VOTER

Greeley-Weld League of Women Voters

Fall 2018

P.O. Box 336634, Greeley, CO 80633

www.lwvgreeleyweldcounty.org

www.lwv.org

www.lwvcolorado.org

Voter Editor: Kathleen Milligan

50 members



What's in this Voter?

- **Calendar**
- **A word from Chair Janine Reid**
- **National LWV Convention**
- **State League Council**
- **Observer Corps Activity**

Fall 2018 Calendar

| Date | Event | Time | Place | Comments |
|----------------------|---|---------------|--|--|
| Sept. 4 Tues. | GW LWV Leadership Council Meeting | 10-12 noon | Cache Bank and Trust | All are welcome! |
| Sept. 5 Wed. | Library Task Force | 6:30-8 pm | Centennial Park Library | Janine Reid, Hazel Gibson, Jane Paterson, Kathleen Milligan, Carrie Bedell, Ruthie Rockwell. |
| Sept. 25 Tues. | National Voter Registration Day | 4-6 pm | Windsor Library | Contact Hazel Gibson if you would like to participate: hrgibson55@ msn.com |
| Sept. 25 Tues. | Weld County Disability Community Forum | 3-6 pm` | Greeley Recreation Center 651 10 th Ave, Room 101 | Barb Whinery, moderator Invited: State & Weld County candidates |

| | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--------------|--|--|
| Sept. 27 Thurs. | Candidate Forum: County Commissioners and Districts 48 & 50 | 6:30-8:30 pm | AIMS CC Cornerstone Building, 5401 W. 20 th St. | Kathleen Milligan, moderator Invited: Weld County Commissioners (Dist. 2 & At-Large), Clerk & Recorder, House Districts 48 & 50, |
| Sept. 29 Sat. | LWVCO Making Democracy Work Fall Conference | 8:30-3 pm | Holiday Inn, Stapleton East | Cost: \$65, includes lunch and program. Ballot Issue pamphlets will be delivered. Topics: Ballot Issues Y & Z & all other when finalized; League outreach and marketing. |
| Oct. 4 Thurs | LWV Ballot Issue Forum: Local issues & state oil & gas issue | 6:30-8:30 pm | Farr Library, 1939 61 st Ave. | Issues: City-2 Weld County-9 State 97 |
| Oct. 6 Sat. | Vote411.org launch | | Online | Voter Guide for state-wide races and ballot issues will be online. |
| Oct. 8 Mon. | Ballot Issue Presentation: GRASP | 2:30 pm | GRASP, Greeley Adult Activities Ctr | Presenters: Barb Whinery & Janine Reid |
| Oct. 10 Wed. | County Council Candidates Forum | 6:30-8:30 pm | Johnstown Senior Center, 101 Charlotte St., Johnstown | This will be a candidates forum for the 7 candidates for Weld County Council. |
| Oct. 11 Thurs. | G-W LWV Ballot Issue Forum | 6:30-8:30 pm | Farr Library, 1939 61 st Ave. | State Ballot Issues |
| Oct. 11 Thurs. | Ballot Issue Presentation: Sierra Club | 6:00 pm | Family of Christ Presbyterian Church, 35 th Ave. | Presenter: Ruthie Rockwell |
| Oct. 18 Thurs. | Ballot Issues Presentation: Guaranty Bank 50+ Club | 1:00 pm | Civic Center, Two Rivers | Presenter: Bonnie Funk |
| Dec. 7 Friday | Holiday Party | 5:30-7:30 pm | Kenny's Steakhouse, 35 th Avenue & 10 th St. | Bring a friend, as well as family member. Contact ? to RSVP |

NOTE: There will be other ballot issue presentations, including 5 Delta Kappa Gamma presentations by Barb Whinery. You will receive an email about an additional forums or presentations. Watch the Website and Facebook for more information!

A Word from Janine Reid, Chair

janinereid@comcast.net



“These are the times that try men’s souls.” Thomas Paine’s words from more than 200 years ago are certainly apropos today. With so much divisiveness and negativity, the League of Women Voters is more important than ever. We research the issues, we examine the facts, we speak up, we engage in constructive dialogue. We seek to educate and inform ourselves and other voters. Our voices have power, which is magnified when we speak as one through the League. Thank you for your participation.

PLEASE FIND YOUR PLACE WITHIN OUR LEAGUE THIS FALL

Our local League depends on the talents and energy of its members to accomplish its important mission. There are many ways to get involved, and training is provided.

First, we need **volunteers to help at Candidate and Ballot issue forums**. We need timers, question screeners, greeters and people to help set-up and clean-up. We also need to increase our cadre of moderators and presenters. If you are interested and available for any of these duties, please contact Barb Whinery, Voter Services Coordinator.

Register voters at local events.

Issues Matter: join with other members to plan informative meetings or forums this year on topics we have identified as important to our area: oil and gas, redistricting, affordable housing, money and politics, Civics 101.

Investigate important issues and share with others. Let us know topics of interest to you.

Observer Corps: we currently are attending meetings of the Weld County Commissioners, Weld County Council, High Plains Library District, Affordable Housing Working Group, Greeley City Council and Johnstown Town Council. We invite more people to attend these meetings, as well as any other public meetings for which you have interest. Assuring transparency in government is our primary objective, along with a desire to keep up with policies, regulations and activities in Weld County.

Spread the Word: assist with outreach efforts and other ways to improve our League’s visibility. Notify media of meetings and events. Provide content for our website and Facebook page.

Secretary and Data Analyst positions are open. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. The Secretary takes notes at Leadership Council meetings. The Data Analyst compiles

statistics to track League activities and participation, identifies trends and makes recommendations to the Leadership Council.

Please let me know if anything strikes your fancy. We welcome your participation and thank you for your support!



Barb Whinery by the Plaque that commemorates the founding of the League of Women Voters

**LWVUS 2018 National Convention:
A Time of Change and Transition
By Barb Whinery**

Attending a national convention of the LWVUS has always been a dream of mine. With my thanks and appreciation for the support of the Greeley-Weld LWV, I was able to live that dream. The 53rd LWVUS National Convention that occurs every two years was held in Chicago, Illinois from June 28-July 1. The theme of the convention was “Creating a More Perfect Democracy.” The attendance included over 1000 + League leaders and delegates from across the United States. I served as a delegate representing Greeley-Weld.

It was very energizing to attend the four plenary sessions where national League business was conducted and to learn more about national initiatives, to meet the new CEO Virginia Kase and to hear a variety of diverse and inspirational speakers. Caucuses with interest groups and Colorado delegates, workshops and training sessions were helpful in hearing what other Leagues were doing and to obtain materials that will be helpful to our League and programs.

Most importantly, the LWVUS presented its “**Transformational Roadmap**” document, an analysis of internal and external stakeholder interviews on the League and a series of recommended action steps for LWV moving forward. This “Roadmap” addresses four areas for making important organizational changes. The first area addresses advancing a clear strategic focus that includes adopting a new mission, vision and value statement for LWV. The LWV will continue with its core mission and its Making Democracy Work campaign. The second focus is building a more inclusive culture. In a process to build a more diverse membership, closer attention will be paid to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). The third goal will be to align all three levels of the League so that it can be seen as “one seamless League”. Lastly will be to

focus on increasing capacity at all levels of League. With all the administrative demands of League, national will be examining strategies to lighten the administrative load on local Leagues with more support for technology, communications and fund development. With this additional support local leagues can spend more time on mission impact work. Stay tuned for more information on the work being done at the national and state levels.

This was a fabulous opportunity to learn more about other leagues, be part of major changes coming to the League and to participate with other Leaguers in making our democracy better. It was a very inspiring and a memorable experience for me. I look forward to sharing what I learned with all of you in the upcoming year ahead.



Colorado Delegates to the LWV National Convention

Finance Drive

Thanks to everyone who participated in the finance drive. Special thanks go to Holly Darby, who led the charge and coordinated our efforts. Jeanne Lipman put together an updated brochure, which looks terrific. Bonnie Funk shared her space and talents to help the stuffing crew (Jane Paterson, Sally Boccella, Sandy Ward, Ruthie Rockwell, Jessica Hoke and Kathleen Milligan) be productive and efficient. Contributions total about \$1,700 so far, which is lower than last year. We welcome any amount to help us do our work. Janine Reid

LWVCO 2018 Council Meeting: Janine Reid

Barbara Whinery and Janine Reid attended the League of Women Voters of Colorado annual Council meeting in Denver June 1-2, 2018. At Council, LWVCO conducted League business including electing officers and directors and adopting the budget. We listened to a review of the 2018 Legislative Session, heard a preview of the Fall Election, and had the opportunity to attend hands-on leadership workshops on how to become a 501(c)3, budget Q&A and Voter Education Q&A.

Highlights included the rollout of the LWVCO Strategic Plan (We have scheduled a **Coffee Klatsch to discuss the State Strategic Plan as well as the LWWUS Transformation Roadmap. Save the Date: Saturday, January 12 from 10-noon. Place TBD.**) Another

highlight was listening to a presentation by New Era Colorado, a grass roots, nonpartisan organization that engages, educates and trains a new generation of young people in Colorado to empower them to actively participate in the political process. Very inspiring!

This is a great picture of Barb Whinery at the National Convention. Note that she is lying down, only because the editor could not get her to stand up straight. However, the editor just couldn't not include her in this Voter. The editor promises to master this difficult physical task.



Greeley-Weld LWV Priority Areas

- **County and State Redistricting:** The focus for fall is for the League to support Ballot Issues Y & Z. These amendments to the Colorado Constitution would create independent commissions to oversee the map-drawing process in creating state legislative (Amendment Z) and congressional districts (Amendment Y), made up of 4 Democrats, 4 Republicans, and 4 independents. Lobbyists and politicians would be removed from the redistricting process. Meetings and records about redistricting would be accessible and transparent to voters.
- **Library:** The G-W League position on public and school libraries will be updated with an additional statement on college libraries to be added by the League Library Task Force.
- **Observer Corps:**
 - **County Council:** Through the watchful eye of observer Jane Paterson and others in the League, Greeley-Weld League is beginning to understand the relationships between County Council and County Commissioners. As a result, the League will sponsor a candidate forum to give the public a chance to hear what County Council candidates are thinking. This is in addition to the Candidate Forum on September 27th which will include County Commissioner candidates.

- **Library:** Hazel Gibson and others continue to observe High Plains Library Board meetings.

MEMBERS ADD STRENGTH TO OUR VOICE IN THE COMMUNITY

**LWV Greeley/Weld
Leadership Council 2018-2019**

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Chair/Spokesperson | Janine Reid |
| Treasurer | Bonnie Funk |
| Secretary | Unfilled |
| Finance Drive | Holly Darby |
| Membership | Hazel Gibson |
| Voter Editor | Kathleen Milligan |
| Website | Jeanne Lipman |
| Facebook | Jeanne Miller |
| Vote411.org | Julie Wittow |
| Johnstown Unit | Jane Paterson |



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If you haven't paid them! Join us, donate, or get a friend to join! AND
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Annual Dues: \$60 for an individual or \$90 for family membership (two people who receive mail at the same address) Name of second household member _____.
Student Membership: \$25. Or.....if you want to make a donation to the League, you can make it **tax deductible by making it to** the LWV Education Fund. Send to:
League of Women Voters, P.O. Box 336634, Greeley, CO 80633.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Mail your check to: League of Women Voters, P.O. Box 336634, Greeley, CO 80633



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GREELEY/WELD COUNTY
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