



THE VOTER

Greeley-Weld League of Women Voters
Winter 2019

P.O. Box 336634, Greeley, CO 80633

www.lwvgreeleyweldcounty.org

www.lwv.org www.lwvcolorado.org

Voter Editor: Kathleen Milligan
57 members



What's in this Voter?

- Calendar
- The League's Transformational Roadmap: **Note change in venue to First Christian Church, 2230 13th St., Greeley.**
- A Word from Janine Reid, Chair of GW-LWV
- How to get engaged!
- The Electoral College
- A Review of Fall 2018 Voter Service Activities

Winter 2019 Calendar

Date	Event	Time	Place	Comments
Jan. 12, Sat.	Transformation Roadmap and LWVCO Strategic Plan Coffee Klatsch.	10:00-Noon	1 st Christian Church, 2230 13 th St., Fellowship Hall (23 rd Ave. & 13 th St)	Ruth Stemler, 1 st Vice-President of LWVCO, and Rionda Osman, LWVCO Technology Task Force Co-chair, will discuss the LWVUS Transformation Journey and the LWVCO Strategic Plan. See Barb Whinery's explanation of the Transformation Roadmap below. RSVP Janine Reid, janinereid@comcast.net

Jan. 14, Mon.	State League Legislative Confrence	8:30-3:00 pm,	Scottish Rite Temple, 1370 Grant St., Denver	\$ 45.00, lunch included. Carpooling available. See http://lwvcolorado.org/lwv or Colorado LWV 303-863-0437. Program: Legislative priorities plus SOS Jena Griswold & Attorney General Phil Wiser speakers.
Jan. 19, Sat.	Greeley Women's March	10 am-1 pm	Lincoln Park	Wear your buttons; help with signage before the march: League of Women Voters Protects Voting Rights, etc.
Feb. 16, Sat.	Opportunities to Engage in the League	10:30- 12:30 pm	Farr Library	Learn how you can become active in the League by following important topics, advocating, or choosing a task to accomplish for the League. RSVP: Hazel Gibson, hrgibson55@msn.com
Feb. 21, Thurs.	Affordable Housing	6:30-8:00 pm.	TBD	Speakers: John Barnett, Long Range Planner City of Greeley Community Development Lyle SmithGraybeal, VP of Community Impact Weld County United Way Stacy Suniga, Greeley City Council
Mar. 21., Thurs.	Voting Rights Act and Threats to Voting	6:30-8:30 pm	TBD	A focus on protecting voting rights—a League priority.
Apr. 20, Sat.	LWV-GW Annual Meeting	9-Noon	UNC Student Center, Columbine Room	What have we accomplished and what next?
May 16, Thurs.	LWV Meeting: Oil and Gas	6:30-8:00 pm	TBD	A look at oil and gas development in Weld County: what has happened and what next?



A Transformation Roadmap for the League from Barb Whinery

At the LWV 2018 National Convention, 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.

A Word from Janine Reid, Chair Greeley-Weld County League of Women Voters

Now that 2018 has drawn to a close, let us reflect on the year. A few highlights:

- **Finance drive.** We exceeded our goal and received \$2,170 in donations, which has allowed us to hold candidate forums, purchase and distribute over 3,000 ballot issue pamphlets throughout Weld County.
- **Voter Services.** This has been a spectacular year for voter services education. See enclosed report from Barbara Whinery, our Voter Services Chair. She did a yeoman’s job of herding cats, organizing dozens of events that reached hundreds of voters throughout Weld County.
- www.Vote411.org. Thanks to Julie Wittow and Jessica Hoke, our local presence online, with candidates and issues, was robust and received almost 1,000 voters during the voting season. Vote411 is the League’s website that allows candidates to speak for themselves, and voters the opportunity to individualize their own ballot, compare candidates and study issues.
- We have been working to expand our capacity to reach more of Weld County. As such, we worked with the cities of Greeley and Evans to help them to compose pro/con arguments for their ballot issues. We conducted

candidate forums in Lochbuie, Greeley and Johnstown. We presented ballot issue information in Frederick, Greeley, Windsor and Evans, and we helped with voter registration in Windsor and Greeley.

- We registered 22 new citizens at the Naturalization Ceremony at Centennial Village July 3.

I expect 2019 to continue to be robust. We will be updating our positions on Oil and Gas and Libraries, as well as registering new voters and providing information to voters in upcoming local elections. We will continue our work with Voter Protection, redistricting, affordable housing, oil and gas, and transparency in government.

As always, your support is appreciated and valued. We have an event coming up on Saturday, February 16, from 10:30 – 12:30 at the Farr Library to help you identify where, in fact, you can find your sweet spot with our League. See calendar below. **Please join us in our important work to educate and empower voters in Weld County.**

Janine Reid

Chair, LWV of Greeley-Weld County

Voters Get Engaged!!! What you can do to help defend our democracy?

You can feel good about being a participant in a democracy that gives you a privilege of expression of choice.

As you know, League neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties at any level of government, but is always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public. The League has a long, rich history that continues with each passing year.

As the nation's largest and longest-standing grassroots voter registration organization, we work year-round to make sure all eligible Americans—especially first-time voters, non-college youth, new citizens, communities of color, and low-income.

ASK. Ask your social media networks, community partners, and your own members to take advantage of this unique opportunity and talk about the League as a place for people who want to make a difference.

Spread this Message!

Tell us, the League, today about your volunteer interest. Membership not required!

1. [Become an e-Activist](#)
2. [Volunteer Your Time](#)
3. Donate to the League
4. [Spread the Word](#)
5. Attend a Community Meeting
6. [Register to Vote, and help others Register](#)
7. [Contact your Representatives](#)
8. [Run for Office](#)
9. [Write a Letter to the Editor](#)

Greeley-Weld LWV Priority Areas

- **County and State Redistricting:** Amendments Y and Z to the Colorado Constitution will 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 will be removed from the redistricting process. Meetings and records about redistricting would be accessible and transparent to voters. We will see how this unfolds.
- **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. We will continue to understand and watch Weld County Council and County Commissioners.
 - **Library:** Hazel Gibson and others continue to observe High Plains Library Board meetings.
- **Affordable Housing in Weld County**
- **Oil and Gas Development in Weld County**

Are you interested in any of these areas?

- **Watching and learning about County Commissioners and/or County Council**
- **VRD (Voter Registration Drive): Participating in or leading a small group who would focus on registering voters in Weld county**
- **Focus on Colorado Legislative Session issues such as education, juvenile justice, transportation, child welfare or...?**

If so, please contact Janine Reid (janinereid@comcast.net) and come to the February 16th meeting!

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News about The Electoral College: H.R.Res. 7 introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Steve Cohen (TN-09), a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee, on January 3, 2019, introduced a Joint Resolution proposing a Constitutional Amendment to eliminate the Electoral College and provide for the direct election of the President and Vice President of the United States. The complete text is available [here](#). The Joint Resolution was referred to the House Judiciary Committee for consideration. When identical language is passed by two-thirds of both the House of Representatives and the Senate, it will then be referred to the states. It must pass three-fourths of the states to amend the Constitution.

League members are free to contact their own representatives as individuals to encourage support of the Joint Resolution. However, unless an LWVUS Action Alert has been issued, any such federal action in the name of a state or local league must be authorized by the LWVUS Board. To do so, you must submit a **Federal Action Request** to the League.

A Review of Voter Service Activities for Fall 2018

Ballot Issue Presentations:

Events: 21

Attendees: 463

Presentation hours: 29.5

Candidate Forums:

Sponsored by LWV GW: 2

Asked to Moderate: 2 Lochbuie Candidate Forum & Weld County Disability Forum

Attendees: 180

Hours: 8

Candidate involvement: 48 candidates

Voter Registration:

Number of Events: 4

Number of Contacts: 293

Hours: 8

Local Ballot Issue Pro/Cons:

City of Greeley Election Guide Brochure: 4 LWV GW Members/ 6 hours

Evans Election Guide Brochure: 4 LWV GW Members/ 6 hours

Naturalization Ceremony, July 3, 2018, Greeley, CO:

Number of new citizens: 32

Number of LWV GW volunteers: 6

Hours: 3

Submitted by Barb Whinery, Voter Service Chair

11/12/18 bw

Many thanks to Barb Whinery for all of her work this past Fall 2018 in organizing and gathering volunteers to make these many activities possible. Her work and your participation make a difference in the health and well-being of our community!



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 & Jessica Hoke
Johnstown Unit	Jane Paterson

Many Thanks to all who have volunteered to help in whatever capacity.

DUES, DUES, DUES, DUES, DUES, DUES, DUES, DUES, DUES, DUES

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
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