



# The Voter

League of Women Voters of Arapahoe  
And Douglas Counties

December 2015

Membership 112

## IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ January Preview:  
Money In Politics
- ▶ Membership Briefings
- ▶ News & Announcements
- ▶ Management Team Notes



### Thursday, December 3, 2015

LWVADC Holiday Party  
6:30 p.m. @ Willows Creek  
Neighborhood Mineral  
Clubhouse  
8500 E. Mineral Dr., Centennial

### Sunday, December 6, 2015

Hanukkah Begins at Sunset

### Monday, December 7, 2015

Pearl Harbor Remembrance  
Day

### Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Colorado Gives Day

### Friday, December 11, 2015

LWVADC Discussion Group  
10 a.m. @ Southglenn Library  
Streets of Southglenn,  
Centennial

### Monday, December 21, 2015

Winter Begins

### Friday, December 25, 2015

Christmas

### Saturday, December 26, 2015

Boxing Day  
Kwanzaa

### Monday, December 28, 2015

Money in Politics Committee  
Meeting  
10 a.m. @ Castlewood Library  
6739 S. Uinta St., Centennial

### Friday, December 1, 2016

New Year's Day



## A Brief Note

'Tis the season to be jolly and enjoy the holiday festivities so there are very few League activities scheduled this month.

Our big news actually occurs next month as we look at the LWVUS's Money in Politics study and consensus unit meetings. Yes, it's another consensus, but the committee planning this one promises a lively member discussion and entertaining presentations to illustrate the complexity of this issue. See Page 2. It contains informational links for you to explore and READ.

# JANUARY UNIT MEETINGS

## MONEY IN POLITICS



At the January unit meetings we'll be asking your input on how to update the LWVUS position on Money in Politics. We'll talk about Citizen's United and the other game changing US Supreme Court decisions on money in politics. We'll also debate when money is actually speech and the limits to the protections provided by freedom of speech and the press in this context. Finally, we'll get your input on possible reforms to the almost unlimited amounts of money pouring in to influence elections. We hope to have a fun, lively discussion of this often vexing topic at each of our unit meetings.

You'll hear about this again in the January newsletter, **but we urge you to read some of the suggested materials listed below.**

Ed note: I think our favorite Monopoly character, says it all.

For a good overview of why we need to update the LWV's position on Money in Politics please read this excellent short article:

[http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/introduction\\_and\\_overview.final\\_0.pdf](http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/introduction_and_overview.final_0.pdf)

To check out the consensus questions, go to:

[http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/mip\\_questions.9.15.pdf](http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/mip_questions.9.15.pdf)

For some key definitions of money in politics terms, click on:

[Http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/mip\\_definations\\_4-19-15\\_final.pdf](http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/mip_definations_4-19-15_final.pdf)

**And finally, please join us at one of our three January unit meetings:**

**Thursday, January 7** at 5 p.m. Rendezvous Restaurant in Heather Gardens, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way, Aurora

**Monday, January 11** at 5:30 p.m. at Garcia's Mexican Restaurant, 5050 S. Syracuse St., Belleview & Syracuse streets in the Denver Tech Center

**Thursday, January 14** at 10 a.m. at Southglenn Library, Room A, Streets at Southglenn, 6972 S. Vine St., Centennial.

**We look forward to seeing you there.**

# MEMBERSHIP BRIEFINGS

## THANK YOU MEMBERS

Many thanks to the League members who have renewed their memberships. We so appreciate your support and continued interest.

Our thanks also to the following members who contributed an additional amount to League: Barbara Schulmeister, Vicki Harimon, Karyl Storey, G. Stevia Williams, America Sherwood, Betsy McBride, Monique Hea, Alice & Rudy Ramsey, Deb Armbruster, Barbara & Ken Mervine, Gerry Cummins, Ann McGill, Joanna McLean, Nancy Jackson, Marilyn & Keith Ayers, Jo Ann Feder and Maggie Markey.

These members have also contributed to our League's Education Fund: Jan Carlberg, Fern Black Vicki Harimon, Monique Hea and Deb Armbruster.

Hint: If you haven't renewed your League membership yet, please do. Send to Jo Ann Feder, 2363 Primo Rd., Unit E., Highlands Ranch, CO 80129



# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## LWVCO LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The annual state League's Legislative Conference at the Colorado Capital is set for Monday January 25, 2016.

This event features previews of the 2016 legislative session by state legislators, noted speakers and a Legislative overview by our LWVCO lobbyist, Chris Watson. Speakers thus far will be Kathy Underwood, Hunger Free Colorado and Mizram Cordero and Laura Giocomo, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce.

The morning session will be held from 9 a.m. - noon in the Old Supreme Court Chambers, followed by lunch and a talk by Chris Watson at the Scottish Rite Temple, across the street from the capital.

The \$30 registration charge includes the program and a buffet lunch of salad and wraps, A registration form will be included in the January newsletter, but if you wish to reserve early call the LWVCO office, 303-863-0437.

## NEW ELECTION DATA SOURCE AT COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE

A new election - data source at the Colorado Secretary of State's office allows "political junkies and number crunchers to take a closer look at the election that just ended."

ACE - Accountability in Colorado Elections - will give us a closer look at voting turnout in all 64 counties by party registration, as well as examining voter methods, registration stats and election costs.

To look up ACE, go to the SOS's web site, [www.sos.state.co.us](http://www.sos.state.co.us). Click on Elections & Voting and then ACE. Play around with the data and access buttons. You'll find that the official voter turnout in the November 3, 2015 election was 35.7%

## LWVADC DISCUSSION GROUP

The group will meet Friday, December 11 at 10 a.m. at Southglenn Library in the Streets of Southglenn shopping center.

Topics include existing laws and regulations re guns in Colorado and nationwide. Individual discussion is encouraged and open to the public.

Information: Vicki Harimon, [vickiharimon@aol.com](mailto:vickiharimon@aol.com)  
Monique Hea, [heamph@hotmail.com](mailto:heamph@hotmail.com)

## MANAGEMENT TEAM RESIGNATION

Terry Goldfarb, Unit Coordinator, has submitted her resignation due to family concerns. She will continue as Unit Leader for the evening meeting at Garcia's Mexican Restaurant.

## MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATE

The November meeting included the following items:

- Reports from the Water, Voter Service, and Program committees.
- Acceptance of Terry Goldfarb's resignation with regret.
- Library rooms have been reserved for LWVADC programs January- April, 2016.
- Fern Black submitted a report on the proposed 2016 state-wide ballot initiatives.
- Sonya Pennock explained *Building A Better Colorado's* program and meeting schedule. Members agreed to help publicize the programs and provide possible contact info for the organization.
- The Behavioral Health and Amending the Constitution consensus reports were approved.
- Jo Feder, LWVADC membership, is working with LWVUS to implement their new membership data base for our use.
- Plans for the Holiday Party were discussed.

## CONSENSUS UPDATE

We've completed two consensus meetings thus far: The LWVCO Behavioral Health study and the LWVUS Amending the Constitution. The last, Money in Politics, will be completed in January.

The two completed reports with your comments and responses have been sent to LWVCO and LWVUS for their review. Once all reports have been compiled a new program position will be developed and sent to all league members. Thanks so much for your participation.



## BUILDING A BETTER COLORADO BBC

As per our article last month, BBC consists of Republican, Democratic and other community leaders invited by DU Chancellor Dan Ritchie to explore ideas for "Building a Better Colorado." To this end they are holding "Community Summits" throughout Colorado to ask the public questions re Colorado's future and financial security.

Three new community summits are scheduled for our communities:

January 6, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. in Aurora  
January 7, 4 - 6 p.m., in the South Metro area  
January 13, 4-6 p.m., in Highlands Ranch

The meeting times, locations and reservations for these and other area meetings are at <https://betterco.org/meetings/index>.



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

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**LWVADC MANAGEMENT TEAM**

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:info@lwvcolorado.org)  
[www.lwvcolorado.org](http://www.lwvcolorado.org)

### League of Women Voters/US

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