



The Voter

League of Women Voters of Arapahoe
And Douglas Counties

November 2015

Membership 112

IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ November Program
- ▶ December Holiday Party
- ▶ Voter Service Report
- ▶ Membership Briefings
- ▶ News & Announcements
- ▶ Program calendar



Tuesday, November 3rd is Election Day.

Please mark your ballots and return them to your nearest vote center or ballot drop off location. And remember, you can also register to vote on election day. Find all the information re voting, ballot drop off sites, voting requirements and more at our Election Central 2015 page on our League web site

www.lwvarapahoedouglas.org

Tuesday, November 3, 2015
ELECTION DAY

Thursday, November 5, 2015
Unit Meeting: Amending the U.S. Constitution
5 p.m. @ Heather Gardens
Rendezvous Restaurant
2888 S. Heather Gardens Way
Aurora

Monday, November 9, 2015
Unit Meeting: Amending the U.S. Constitution
5:30 p.m. @ Garcia's Mexican Restaurant
5050 S. Syracuse, Centennial

Tuesday, November 10, 2015
LWVADC Administrative Meeting
9:30 a.m. @ Koebel Library
5955 S. Holly St, Centennial

Thursday, November 12, 2015
Unit Meeting: Amending the U.S. Constitution
9:30 a.m. @ Castlewood Library
6739 S. Uinta St., Centennial

Thursday, November 12, 2015
LWVADC Water Committee Mtg
1 p.m. @ Arapahoe County Public Works,
6924 S. Lima St. Centennial

Friday, November 13, 2015
LWVADC Discussion Group
10 a.m. Southglenn Library

Friday, November 13, 2013
Money In Politics Committee Mtg.
2 p.m. @ Castlewood Library
6739 S. Uinta St., Centennial

Friday, November 20, 2015
LWVADC Management Team Mini
Retreat @ 12:30 p.m, RSI Offices
1101 W. Mineral, Littleton

Monday, November 23, 2015
LWVADC Management Team
6:30 p.m. @ Castlewood Library
6739 S. Uinta, Centennial

Thursday, November 26, 2015
THANKSGIVING

2015-2016 PROGRAM CALENDAR

The LWVADC Program 2015-2016 calendar is attached with this newsletter. Beginning in January the popular movie night and lunch bunch activities will begin followed by the Great Decisions programs, public meetings on Human Trafficking, and the LWVADC's water committee presentation of the role water plays in Arapahoe and Douglas County development projects. We are also inviting our members to choose their own programs for their April Unit Meetings. Stay tuned.

NOVEMBER UNIT MEETINGS

AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION & CONSENSUS



Did you know that there have been over 11,000 proposals to amend the U.S. Constitution? Of course, only 27 were passed by a 2/3 vote of Congress and ratified by ¾ of the states. Still, if some of these amendments had been adopted, personal wealth would be limited to \$1 million, there would be a nationwide ban on dueling, interracial marriage and divorce would be illegal, and our country would be renamed the United States of the EARTH.

Today, there are a plethora of proposals to amend the Constitution circulating throughout the country. They range from liberal efforts to publicly finance elections and overturn the Supreme Court's rulings on campaign finance to conservatives' calls for balancing the budget, defining marriage as between a man and a woman, and greatly limiting the power of the federal government.

Because Congress has not acted on any of these proposals, some on both ends of the political spectrum are becoming impatient and advocating for a never-used option for proposing amendments to the U.S. Constitution - a national constitutional convention. This option is provided for in Article V of the U.S. Constitution.

Given the ease of mounting national campaigns through social media, some experts believe it is likely there will be more organized efforts to amend the Constitution and, perhaps, convene an Article V Convention. Because pressure is mounting, the League of Women Voters needs to be prepared to respond to proposed amendments. What criteria should we consider when evaluating whether or not a proposed amendment should be enshrined in the Constitution? Should League support efforts to convene an Article V Convention?

At our **November unit meetings** we will have the opportunity to reach consensus on guidelines which the League should follow when deciding whether or not to support an effort to amend the Constitution. We will also be asked if we think LWV should support holding an Article V Convention that would propose amendments. It is vital that League have the tools to weigh in on constitutional amendments that, once placed in the Constitution, will have a long-term impact on how we live and how we are governed.

Please join us at the November unit meetings to add your voice to our consensus. E-Mail background materials were mailed to you October 28th. Check your mail and take a look.

HOLIDAY PARTY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015

6:30—9:30 P.M.

WILLOWS CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD

MINERAL CLUBHOUSE

8500 E. MINERAL DR. CENTENNIAL

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL
HOLIDAY PARTY. AN APPETIZER OR
DESSERT TO SHARE WOULD BE
APPRECIATED. BEVERAGES WILL BE
PROVIDED



League of Women Voters of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties

Directions: We have arranged this place between the east and west portions of Arapahoe & Douglas counties so all can attend. While some of you may be more familiar with the location and can reach it via different ways, here's some simple directions: From the Aurora area go west on Arapahoe Rd. to S. Yosemite St. Yosemite is right after the Arapahoe/I-25 interchange. Turn left on Yosemite and drive past Dry Creek Ave and down the hill as if you were going to the Park Meadows Mall. About two blocks before the Mall, turn right on E. Mineral Dr. (There is road construction on the corner). Drive about 8 blocks until you get to the clubhouse. It says Willow Creek 2 Clubhouse. Turn left into the parking lot. For those living in Littleton, Douglas County, Centennial area, go east on Arapahoe Rd., right on Yosemite and then right on E. Mineral. You could also access it going east on County Line Rd.

VOTER SERVICES

FALL WRAPUP



Littleton City Council Candidate Forum



Greenwood Village City Council Candidate Forum

Voter Service events consumed most of our activities this fall, thanks to the cooperation of three local newspapers and a dedicated group of LWVACD volunteers. In addition to the 500 Ballot issues distributed to community residents and organizations, activities included:

- ◆ Co-sponsorship and participation in the Aurora Candidate forum for City Council and Mayoral candidates September 30th at the Aurora Municipal Center. Sponsored by the Aurora Sentinel newspaper, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, the Business Professional Women of Aurora and the League, the forum was televised by Aurora Channel 8 and shown three times during October. The league logo and name was also featured in the Aurora Sentinel's full page ad advertising the TV shows.
- ◆ Two candidate forums for Littleton Public Schools Board of Education candidates were held on September 21st at Littleton High School, and on September 29 at Arapahoe High School,
- ◆ An Englewood City Council Candidate forum on October 7th
- ◆ An Englewood School Board candidate forum on October 10th
- ◆ A Littleton City Council Forum on October 12. This forum was co-sponsored by the Littleton Independent and featured our involvement in full page ads advertising the event.
- ◆ A Greenwood Village City Council Candidate forum on October 21—also co-sponsored by the Greenwood Villager newspaper and noted in their advertisements.

Most events averaged 50 or more in attendance. WE are grateful for the partnerships we have developed with the local newspapers and look forward to working with them again. They were invaluable in making our candidate forums a success.

The four Voter Registration drives conducted by LWVADC were also successful in reaching across ethnic and demographic strata at the Aurora and Arapahoe community colleges, the Aurora City's GlobalFest community event, and seniors at local Retirement Centers. One note: While paper registrations are still used, more and more registrations are being done online. Registrars must have Computers or notepads.

MEMBERSHIP BRIEFINGS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome two new members this month: Ann Roux, and Amy Sherwood .

Ann Roux was born and raised in Seattle but moved to Denver in 1973. She joined LWV in Denver in 1976, and transferred to Jefferson County LWV in 1977 when she moved to Evergreen. Since joining Jeffco LWV she has been a unit chairperson for 3 years, a board member with many portfolio positions for several years, a Vice President and then League President 2011-2013. Needless to say she has been involved in numerous League programs and events including many voter service activities. She is moving from her Evergreen home of 38 years to the “flatlands” of greater Denver and seeking a new home in the greater Denver area. Her current address is an apartment in Douglas County. Current volunteer work - to name just a few - includes dog walker for the Denver Dumb Friends League, projects for the Jeffco Action Center and Jeffco libraries and the Evergreen Center for the Arts. And, of course, League activities.

Amy Sherwood moved here two years ago from Illinois to be close to her daughter and her family. She was a teacher in Illinois for 30 years as well as volunteering to usher theatre performance there for 15 years. She is interested in health and safety issues as well as politics and music.

WANTED: LEAGUE MEMBERSHIPS

Just a reminder this time, that we would gratefully appreciate your membership renewal. Hope you will take a moment to send us a check and your interest survey. As you know, Your dues help us provide programs and services that benefit to the community. An excellent example of the activities you support are the candidate forums and voter registration drives conducted this fall. They take money and volunteer effort. Please consider renewing your membership.

You've received a letter and a request to fill out your interest survey. If you've mislaid it, just drop your check in the mail and send it to Jo Feder, LWVADC Membership Chair, 2363 Primo Rd., Unit E, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129. We'll also send you another interest sheet.

PS; This past week I have received three phone calls asking me, as a League representative, about various school board and city council candidates. While we do not endorse candidates and tell people we are nonpartisan, people know they can call us re the facts. They are now on our mailing list for future candidate forums.



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LWVADC DISCUSSION GROUP

The November discussion group will talk about Putin and the war, and touch on the December issue of gun control.

Friday, November 13 at 10 a.m. at the Southglenn Public Library in the Streets of Southglenn, Centennial

MANAGEMENT TEAM CHANGES

Karen Hart, Member At- Large, has resigned to take a new job at the Arapahoe County Elections Center, Vicki Harimon, acting Voter Services Coordinator, has now joined the team as the permanent Voter Services Coordinator. As such, Vicki will be guiding the LWVADC voter services program.

Public invited to participate in Building a Better Colorado

Building a Better Colorado - the new organization of Colorado leaders exploring ideas to improve Colorado and the state's fiscal situation as well as the initiative and election processes, are soliciting public opinion and comments on their website and in meetings throughout the Denver area.

To comment online go to BetterCO.org or one of the meetings listed here:

- Aurora Summit, November 9, 3-6 p.m.
RSVP: <http://bit.ly/BBCOAurora>
- Downtown Denver, November 16, 8-11 a.m.
RSVP: <http://bit.ly/BBCODDenver>

MANAGEMENT RETREAT

The Management Team will hold a mini retreat to discuss membership recruitment and member mobilization Friday, November 20 at 12:30 p.m. at RSI Offices, 1102 E. Mineral Ave., Littleton. If you have a suggestion of comment about these subjects, please send them to Sonya Pennock, 303-724-0430, sonsu@earthlink.net

We are looking for ways to encourage more member involvement in League programs and activities and ways to ascertain and engage member interests.



- Jefferson County, November 16, 3-6 p.m.
RSVP: <http://bit.ly/BBCOLakewood>
- Douglas County, November 17, 3-6 p.m.,
RSVP: <http://bit.ly/BBCOParker>
- Adams County, November 18, 4-7 p.m.,
RSVP: <http://bit.ly/BBCOThornton>
- Broomfield, November 23, 3-6 p.m.,
RSVP: <http://vit.ly/BBCObroom>

The group, consisting of Republican and Democratic leaders, were invited by DU Chancellor Dan Ritchie to explore ideas for "Building a Better Colorado".



**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

League Links

League of Women Voters/Colorado

1410 Grant, B-204
Denver, Colorado 80203
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info@lwvcolorado.org
www.lwvcolorado.org

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