



The Boulder County Voter

1 June 2016

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<http://www.facebook.com/lwvbc.org>



<https://instagram.com/lwvbc>

Greetings !

As I attended meetings over the last two weeks I was reminded of how lucky I am to be President of the League of Women Voters of Boulder County.

LWVCO Council in Montrose highlighted best practices from across the state which make our democracy better. We learned from our sister Leagues about the recent Climate Action Forum in Jeffco, initiatives to address the heroin epidemic in Pueblo, and the Cross Currents public television program in Larimer County which has existed for 30 years. What an inspiration! And we informed all about the important work we're doing in Boulder County. Please review Frieda Holley's article in this Voter.

I came home to attend a meeting convened by the Longmont Community Foundation and LWVBC to start the conversation on economic self-sufficiency in Longmont and other Boulder County communities. Eric Hozempa, Executive Director of the Foundation, and Mary Ann Wilner, Social Policy Team leader, led the discussion attended by more than ten community organizations on what outcomes we can accomplish. Three or four of the organizations represented at the meeting were new partners for LWVBC.

I then attended a meeting with Susan Saunders, Voter Service Director, to discuss with the Latino Task Force of Boulder County how we can work together to execute 2016 forums from the Latino perspective. Voter education is key to our mission this year and gives our League work greater visibility!

It takes many great volunteers within LWVBC to lead on these initiatives. As we approach our LWV 100th anniversary we must remember: *we were founded in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.* We're doing that. Be proud of yourselves!!



Ruth Stemler, President,
LWVBC

Ruth

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LWVCO Council in Montrose

From Frieda Holley

Ruth Stemler, Susan Saunders, and Frieda Holley attended the LWVCO Council meeting (21-22 May 2016); Ruth and Susan went as delegates and Frieda went as an observer and Chair of the LWVCO Budget Committee. Ruth shared the extensive activities of the Boulder League with other leagues and encouraged more communication and networking among leagues.

The three were impressed by Pueblo County's organization of Heroin Forums created to help combat the heroin epidemic in Pueblo and Larimer County's Cross Currents Community Video Program. Videos of discussions of pertinent topics are available from the program.

Wonder Wachara, who came to the U.S. from Kenya at the age of ten and is now a political science student at Colorado Mesa University, gave a moving speech on why millennials should be involved in the political process.

For fun, Frieda and Susan toured the back alleys of Montrose hearing stories of Montrose's past and the ghosts that haunt various buildings.



From the left; Frieda Holley, Ruth Stemler, and Susan Saunders at the LWVCO Council in Montrose on 21-22 May 2016

Mark Your Calendars

16-19 June 2016:

LWVUS Convention, Washington DC
Making Democracy Work for All

26 June 2016:

Colorado Latino Festival

Downtown Longmont, Colorado. For details:
[Festival Event](#)

28 June 2016:

PRIMARY ELECTION

31 May 2016: Deadline for affiliated voters to switch affiliation

20 June 2016: Deadline for unaffiliated voters who wish to receive mail ballots to affiliate with a party

28 June 2016: Unaffiliated voters may affiliate with the Democratic or Republican parties any time through Election Day

9 July 2016:

Longmont's Rhythm on the River Festival

Get your Duck Race tickets from [Louisa Young](#)

League of Women Voters of Boulder County
Box 21274, Boulder CO 80308
www.lwvbc.org

Membership: 185 as of May 2016

President: Ruth J. Stemler
president@lwvbc.org

Membership: Liz Black
membership@lwvbc.org

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10 issues per year
Editor: Rionda Osman
editor@lwvbc.org

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LWVBC Annual Meeting: 7May 2016



Ruth Stemler, President,
chaired the Annual Meeting,



Hillary Hall, Boulder
County Clerk & Recorder



Maeve Conran, News
Director, KGNU



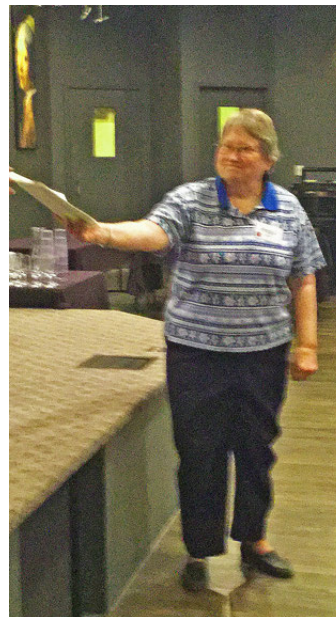
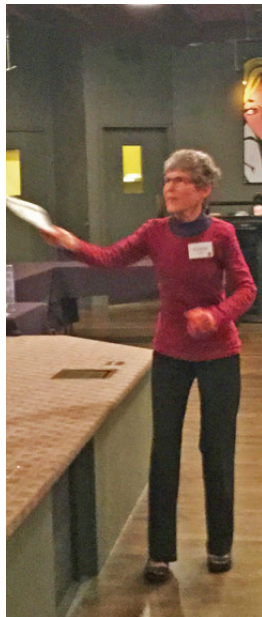
Liz Black, Membership & Susan
Saunders, Voter Services



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LWVBC Annual Meeting: 7May 2016



From the left: Jeanine Pow, Frieda Holley, Peggy Leech, and Ellen Gille and Louisa Young



Clockwise from the top:
Bruce MacKenzie, Judy Reid
(Ellen Gille and Liz Nick in
the background), Linda
Hultman, and Giorgio
Ausenda



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Awards Made by League of Women Voters of Boulder County

Annual Meeting, 7 May 2016

From Liz Black

Community Partner Award

First ever Community Partner Award to Maeve Conran, News Director, KGNU Radio, a community radio station in Boulder and Denver. Maeve, originally from Ireland, first got involved in KGNU as a volunteer not long after moving to Colorado. She saw the organization's capacity to shine a light on issues that most impact us, which are often overlooked by main stream media. She's brought visibility to the league by highlighting our programs: Campaign Finance Reform, Human Trafficking, Vote411 launch, Living Wage, Behavioral Health and more. When we ask – she responds.

Achievement Awards

Achievement Award to Frieda Holley. Frieda has served six years as treasurer, providing the board with the financial updates and protecting the fiscal stability of the organization. Frieda goes beyond working with figures. She uses what she learned from an environmental scan of Latinas in the local communities to make League events more appealing to that component of our population. Also, this year she led the budget committee of the state-level League.

Achievement Award to Peggy Leech. Peggy is remarkable in being active with several issues team as well as serving on the board, in a role not clearly defined when she took it on. Peggy was responsible for consensus meetings and community meetings and worked to engage the larger community. Peggy maintained her commitment to the League even through the stress of helping implement her employer's decision to move all of their Broomfield operations to Tennessee.

Achievement Award to Jeanine Pow. Jeanine specializes in one activity for the league, Voter Registration Drives (VRDs), and she coordinates those with enormous gusto! She focuses particularly on high schools, knowing that if we reach young people when they are first eligible to pre-register for voting, there will be a ripple effect, with classmates, family and friends more likely to also register. In choosing where to hold VRD events, Jeanine takes into account the characteristics of attendees and the cost to the League.

Achievement Award to Susan Saunders. Susan has done an admirable job with all facets of Voter Services, one of the largest director portfolios. She has worked closely with her team and has recruited, trained, and coordinated volunteers herself. Besides this, Susan has contributed in a big way to implementation of the strategic plan. Important goals might have fallen by the wayside were it not for Susan's persistent reminders to measure the results of our efforts and concentrate on those which have been most successful.

Achievement Award to Mary Ann Wilner. Mary Ann, as a newer member of the League, reluctantly agreed to lead the Social Policy Team. Her passion to ensure that contract workers receive a living wage has reinvigorated the team. She introduced different approaches, such as meeting individually with council members, in advance of public hearings. With Boulder staff now studying how to address League concerns, Mary Ann has initiated discussion over these same policy issues in Longmont.

Milestone Anniversaries

Marion Selbin – 30 years
Linda Hultman – 30 years
Liz Black – 30 years

Janet Cassady – 35 years
Bruce MacKenzie – 35 years

Rich Collins – 40 years

Judy Reid – 45 years
Nancy Allen – 45 years

Ellen Gille – 50 years LIFE!!
Louisa Young – 50 years LIFE!!

Gwen Ball – 60 years

Jane Volkhausen – 65 years



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In Memory of Our Friends

From Liz Black and Deborah Hayes

Marj Hellebust

Marj Hellebust, a life member of the League, passed away 15 March 2016. Marj first joined the League soon after her marriage. She was an art major and noted that the League turned her on to things other than art so she had plenty to talk about with Karsten, an economist. While in Lakewood, Marj's growing interest in Jefferson County politics led her to manage the reelection campaign for her state legislator. To advance Kar's career they moved to Connecticut where Marj helped found a Friends of the Library and successfully lobbied for a new library building for the town of Trumble. Upon retirement to Boulder, she joined our league. She observed Boulder city council meetings for several years, and Ecocycle Board meetings through the period of time when establishment of the recycle center was being debated. At Frasier, she was instrumental in starting the League unit that met there. Marj certainly exemplifies League the goal of creating better communities, having made a difference in each place where she lived!

Mary Trembour

Longtime member Mary Trembour died on 22 May 2016, at age 92. Although she was a member of our League beginning in the 1970s, she did not accumulate a lot of years of membership because her work took her overseas for extended periods. Through League membership she could reconnect with local politics. Friends remember her sense of humor and her dedication to international peace and justice. Not so many years ago, on opening day of the Conference on World Affairs at CU, she came upon a large young male holding a six-inch switchblade and intent on cutting down the United Nations flag at the head of the parade of flags. She stopped him and convinced him to abandon his plan. There will be a celebration of Mary Trembour's life on Saturday, 18 June 2016, 2-4pm, at the Meridian Boulder, 801 Gillaspie Drive, 80305. See a more extensive obituary in the Daily Camera.

Membership Activities – Extending Our Range

From Liz Black

Some ladies who live in Broomfield have been exploring what they could do to bring a League presence to their City and County. I was with them three times (8 Feb, 23 Apr and 18 May) and will share my reflections on these discussions.

Gretchen Minney, who lives in Broomfield and has joined the LWVBC, approached us last summer about a League presence in her community. She was becoming increasingly aware of the barriers her women's group faced as they tried to expand and generate more interest in programs on public policy topics. Her group had its roots in one of the political parties and consequently, she found they had limited credibility as they reached out to independents or those registered with another party. Thus the League's non-partisan reputation held great appeal.

Discussions expanded to include others in the League from the board of the Broomfield Progressive Women's organization. Gretchen hosted a tea and over a dozen ladies attended. Barbara Mattison, the board president for the state league, was there to explain some of the essential points about how the League operates. Ruth Stemler gave them highlights of projects underway by our most active issue teams. Since then five have joined the LWVBC, and some have come to our events.

These ladies will bring some wonderful energy to the cause of greater civic involvement among Broomfield residents! A small number met later and talked about specific steps forward. They reviewed potential low cost meeting places and considered different ways to get out word of their plans to a larger audience. They are pursuing the idea of scheduling a summer series of walks and discussions, and inviting those who attend to National Trail Day event on June 4 to join them. These events could appeal to all ages and would allow time for participants to get to know each other. At their next



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Membership Activities – Extending Our Range (continued)

planning meeting, the agenda will include setting up a League 101 training and organizing a public educational meeting on the Colorado Cares ballot initiative.

What can you do to provide encouragement to these women? Having had the experience of seeing how sending notices of our events to a wide audience has brought us new members and more engagement from non-members in Boulder County, I believe that same approach could make a difference in Broomfield. Do you know men or women in that county who would like to learn more about their government and/or participate in discussion of civic policies? Send me their names and we will keep them posted about developments in this on-going story about bringing a League presence to our neighboring county.

Voter Service Shines at VRDs

From Susan Saunders

We have a lot to celebrate! In spite of it being Finals Week at the University of Colorado, we held a full-day registration drive in the student union. We registered students and faculty, changed addresses and distributed registration information cards all day long. Photos were taken by the Colorado Daily so we got some press there too.

Borrowing directly from Jeanine Pow's voter registration drive reports: "Despite fairly lousy and cold weather for the Cinco de Mayo celebration in Longmont, we were able to formally register three new voters, pass out 21 voter registration information cards and brochures and answer numerous questions. An especially BIG THANK YOU to Shiquita and her son and daughter, Genesis and T.J. Shiquita and her kids met me at 9:00 a.m. at Roosevelt Park and helped unload my car and set up our alcove and site. (Imagine getting teenagers to any event at 9:00 a.m. on a Saturday morning). Genesis also personally made a pinwheel with various political trivia questions to attract young people to our table. Finally, when weather dictated an early wrap up, T.J. met me at 5:00 p.m. and we were able to get everything broken down and in my car in under 15 minutes just as big drops of rain began to fall."

Our next drive was indoors at the Community Food Shares offices. Much warmer! Bruce MacKenzie assisted, especially charming small children who were waiting in line with their parents. We registered two voters, one online and one with a paper form. We also handed out 9 blue cards and brochures.

To keep up the momentum we will be handing out voter registration information cards all three days of the Boulder Creek Festival and following this act with registration tables at the Boulder and Longmont Farmers' Markets each month, June-October. We also have a table for registrations at the Longmont Latino Festival, June 26. Si se habla Español, we could really use you! Even if you don't speak Spanish, please consider volunteering because the six people who show up regularly, may be getting tired of seeing the same faces at these events and we can't slow down before this coming election cycle. Jeanine would love to hear from you!

Taking Action: Social Policy Team



Social Policy Team is watching the upcoming 2017 budget discussions by Boulder City Council. We want to make sure the 2017 budget reflects council's decisions in February 2016 concerning Living Wage for city employees and our League's advocacy of the Self-Sufficiency Standard (SSS) as calculated for Boulder County. Team members are also working to make Living Wage and the SSS a county-wide policy.

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Taking Action: VRD Volunteers Needed



From Jeanine Pow

Members of the Voter Registration Drive (VRD) Team and allies conducted SIX events during May, 2016! VRDs were conducted at: the University of Colorado UMC; Cinco de Mayo, Longmont; and at Community Food Share, Louisville. We also handed out hundreds of voter registration information cards at the Boulder Creek Festival on May 28th, 29th and 30th. I am very grateful for the wonderful help of the following volunteers who made the May events a huge success (forgive me if I've left out anyone): Giorgio Ausenda, Shiquita Yarbrough, Genesis Yarbrough, T.J. Yarbrough, Diana Haskell, Deborah Smith, Peggy Leech, Bruce MacKenzie, Jeannette Hillery, Anne Coakley, Joy Reich and Susan Saunders.

Voter Services continues to make a concerted effort to register Colorado voters for the upcoming June 28th Primary and the November 8th General Election. We still need volunteers who can work a shift at one or more of the following VRDs this summer:

Colorado Latino Festival, 4th and Main Street, Longmont: **Sunday, June 26, 2016**

Boulder Farmer's Market, 13th Street between Arapahoe & Canyon, Boulder: **Saturday, July 2, 2016**

Longmont Farmer's Market, County Fairgrounds, 9595 Nelson Road, Longmont: **Saturday, August 20, 2016**

To volunteer, please contact Jeanine Pow, (303) 915-8915 or powpc@hotmail.com

28 June Primary

Check Your Registration ! Tell Your Friends !

Colorado Secretary of State Wayne Williams is advising all voters who want to participate in the June 28 primary election to check their voter registration status. Colorado election law establishes different deadlines to affiliate as a Democrat or Republican, depending on whether a voter is affiliated with any political party or is unaffiliated.

Be aware of the following deadlines:

31 May 2016: Deadline to switch affiliation to either the Democratic or Republican party if you are a registered voter and are already affiliated with a political party

20 June 2016: Unaffiliated voters who want to participate and receive their ballots by mail must affiliate with the appropriate party by June 20th. Unaffiliated voters who affiliate with either party after June 20th cannot be mailed a ballot and must visit a voter service center in their county to vote in person. The dates those centers will open and their locations are available by checking with your county clerk.

28 June 2016: Unaffiliated voters may affiliate with the Democratic or Republican parties any time through Election Day on June 28 and vote in person.

Republican and Democratic voters will be nominating candidates for the U.S. Senate, U.S. House, state Senate, state House, University of Colorado Board of Regents, state Board of Education, district attorney and county commissions. (The [SOS website](#) lists everyone but county commission candidates.)

Williams advises voters to check their registration at GoVoteColorado.com. They should make sure their addresses are current as ballots are not forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service.

Voters also should ensure their party affiliation is correct. The Secretary of State's office discovered in March that on certain cell phones the mobile optimized version for online voting registration did not show the "next" and "submit" buttons on the last two pages of a voter change. Voters might not have realized that they failed to complete their transaction.

LWVBC BULLETIN BOARD

JUNE 2016

Advocacy and Influence: How to Make Change Happen Register Now !



For a discussion of ADVOCACY AND INFLUENCE: How to Make Change Happen

Colorado Women Hall of Fame Inductees (scheduled to attend): Mary Lou Makepeace, Lillie Nie, Mary Ann Kerwin, and Ramona Martinez. Sponsored by the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame in partnership with the Women's Collaborative for Colorado.

5-7:30 pm Tuesday, 14 June 2016 at the Denver Public Library
10 W. Fourteenth Ave. Pkwy, Denver CO 80204

This event is open to the public and free; however, you must register: [Register for Advocacy & Influence](#)

Colorado Latino Festival

12-7:00 pm, Saturday 26 June 2016
Downtown Longmont

The 1st Colorado Latino Festival is the brainchild of the Latino Chamber aimed at showcasing the different Latin American cultures found throughout our state. It will feature music, culture, gastronomy, education, resources and much more.

LWVBC will be registering voters. [Volunteer](#) now!

[Festival Details](#)



17th Annual Floating of the Ducks in Longmont !



Get Your Tickets !

Saturday, 9 July 2016, as part of Longmont's Rhythm on the River Festival, the St. Vrain Rotary Club of Longmont will send thousands of ducks floating down the river.

For \$5, you can get in on the fun and help the LWVBC raise some funds. If you have a ticket that matches one of the first 3 ducks to cross the finish, you will win \$500, \$1000, or \$2000 !



See [Louisa Young](#) to get your tickets !

June 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

July 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

LWVBC Calendar

- 31 May: Deadline for affiliated voters to switch affiliation
- 16–19 June: LWVUS Convention, Washington DC
- 20 June: Deadline for unaffiliated voters to affiliate with a party and receive a mail ballot
- 26 June: Colorado Latino Festival
- 28 June: Unaffiliated voters may affiliate with Democratic or Republican parties anytime through Election Day and vote in person.
- 28 June: PRIMARY ELECTION
- 9 July: Longmont's Rhythm on the River Festival

League of Women Voters of Boulder County
P.O. Box 21274
Boulder CO 80308