

THE LEAGUE IN THE 1990s

The last decade of the Twentieth Century began with continuation of national problems of federal deficit, increased crime with greater prison populations, controversy over abortion, and not enough money to fund solutions for unemployment, health care, and homelessness. Criticism of the public educational system resulted in suggestions such as vouchers to pay tuition to public, private, or home schools chosen by parents. All seemed to undermine the system further without presenting workable plans, and were opposed by the League. Legislation was approved for a limited numbers of charter schools. State funding for schools was inadequate, and the General Assembly's Joint Budget Committee struggled to find an acceptable way to provide funding for good education for Colorado's children.

When President Bush nominated Clarence Thomas to serve as a Supreme Court Justice in 1991, the nominee was challenged by witnesses on the basis of lack of competence and charges of sexual harassment of women with whom he had worked. Thomas was confirmed by a small majority of the Senate. For the first time in history, sexual harassment was recognized as a frequent and common form of discrimination that women had always endured in order to protect their jobs, and many men "just didn't get it!" The League had adopted an anti-discrimination position in 1947.

A war called "Desert Storm" began in January 1991 and continued for only a few weeks. According to polls, it was enthusiastically supported by a huge majority. The League's position was that a nonmilitary response should be employed. American military forces also were assigned to duty in Somalia and Haiti during the 1990s. Forces of the United Nations were stationed in the area formerly known as Yugoslavia. At home, citizens seemed more concerned about domestic issues, such as a worsening economy with increased unemployment.

The year of the women in politics.

Women all over the country took their places in the political campaigns of 1992. The Women's Political Caucus reported that by late June there were 18 women running for U.S. Senate, 148 women were candidates for seats in the U.S. House, and women were candidates for governor in 6 states and for lieutenant governor in three states.⁵³ Emily's List (Early Money is Like Yeast— it raises the dough!), a Democratic women's PAC surged to the forefront, dominating the groups contributing money to candidates. Gender discrimination and harassment, the economy, and reproductive choice were issues given credit for arousing both women and men to help women run and be elected. Republicans formed a PAC called WISH to help Republican women raise money for their campaigns. A record 106 women ran for election to the U.S. House of Representatives, and 19 of them were elected to bring the total number of women in Congress to 48 when the 1995 session began.⁵⁴ Of the eleven women who campaigned for election to the U.S. Senate, four were elected and one was reelected for a second term. This brought the total number of women senators to six, including the first African-American. Two women senators were elected from California, and Texas voters elected a woman to fill the Senate seat vacated by Sen. Lloyd Bentson who had been appointed Secretary of the Treasury by President Clinton.

This new look of Congress was expected to continue, finally proving that women should and could be a true part of the governing process. Media called 1992 "The Year of the Woman," but the National Women's Political Caucus, an organization that promotes the election of women, asked in its national convention material: "Do we only get one?"⁵⁵

⁵³ National Women's Political Caucus, **Women's Political Times** (Washington: NWPC, July 1992).

⁵⁴ *"Illinois Braun tops female candidates winning Senate seats," Denver Post*, November 4, 1992, p. 10A.

⁵⁵ National Women's Political Caucus, "Convention Announcement," *Ibid.*, Spring 1993.

The Clinton administration.

President Clinton's first official acts ended the "gag rule" that had prevented family planning counseling in any facility that received federal funding and approved a family emergency leave bill which the League had supported for several years. Reform of health care delivery systems was the top priority of the Clinton administration, with Hillary Rodham Clinton chairing a planning committee. The parts of the proposal were included in legislation introduced in Congress, but none passed. A consensus by League members indicated strong support for universal coverage, single-payer plan, and other provisions of the bills, but lobbying Congress was not successful.

Colorado's Congresswoman Pat Schroeder had worked hard to get these measures passed. She was known as the "Dean of Women in Congress" and was the co-chair, with Maine's Rep. Olympia Snowe, of the Congressional Women's Caucus. Ruth Bader Ginsberg, a women's rights activist, was appointed by President Clinton to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1993, when Justice Byron White, a Colorado native, retired at the conclusion of the session. Her appointment received unanimous approval by the Senate.

The elections of 1994 brought control of both houses of Congress to conservative Republicans. In the House, Speaker Newt Gingrich proposed a Contract with America, which targeted many federal programs designed to help the poor — especially women and children. The idea was to give those responsibilities to the states or private charities.

Colorado politics.

Congressional redistricting was a major issues that came before a special session of the General Assembly in the fall of 1991. Legislators re-drew the lines for the Congressional districts, but their plan was vetoed by the Governor and referred to the Colorado Supreme Court which returned it with instructions that the legislature should try again to reach an acceptable compromise. Meanwhile, a Reapportionment Commission, created by an initiative sponsored by the League and approved by voters in 1974, was working to draw new district lines for the Colorado General Assembly. This Commission consisted of four legislators appointed by the leadership of the General Assembly, three citizens appointed by the governor, and four citizens appointed by the Chief Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court. Although the LWVCO had recommended highly-qualified Leaguers for appointment to the Commission in both 1981 and 1991, none were named to the Commission. However, the system had worked well in 1981-1982, and it presented a workable plan in 1992.⁵⁶

Two million Coloradans were registered and almost 80 percent voted in the November 3, 1992, election. The Secretary of State did not credit the larger number to the law passed in the 1992 session that permitted early voting, but to increased interest in the issues. Five women (not all senators were up for reelection) were elected to the State Senate, raising the number of women senators to 8. Twenty-six women won seats in the House.⁵⁷ Only in the state legislatures of Washington (38.1%) and Arizona (35.6%) were there larger percentages of women elected than in Colorado (34%). In May 1993, Mildred Mattingly was appointed to fill a vacancy in the House, and the number of women in that body reached twenty-seven.

This was a very different picture from the 1895 session when the first three women were elected to the state House of Representatives, or 1912, when the first woman was elected to the state Senate — the second woman elected to any state's Senate! In 1993, a coalition that included the League, sponsored celebrations of the Centennial of 100 Years of Voting Rights for Colorado women.

⁵⁶ Phyllis Horney, **Reapportionment Report** (Denver: LWVCO Education Fund, 1992).

⁵⁷ "Voter turnout high, but no record-breaker," **Rocky Mountain News**, November 5, 1992, p. 8.

Although the numbers were thinned by the primary elections, it appeared that women were finally recognizing their abilities in politics and were successful in raising the money for campaigns. In Colorado, Josie Heath, LWV Boulder Valley, gained a place on the Democratic Primary ballot by petition, but lost in the election although she was one of the candidates supported by Emily's List and ran a good campaign.

Changes came to Colorado's government by way of the 1994 elections, also. Women were elected to the offices of lieutenant governor, secretary of state, and attorney general. The same number of offices had been occupied by women, but Gail Schoettler who had been treasurer became lieutenant governor, and Gale Norton was reelected secretary of state. There were fewer women in the General Assembly for the 1995 session, with ten women in the state Senate and 21 in the House, reducing Colorado's 34% of 1992 and 1993 to 31% representation. Women served as assistant majority leader, majority whip, minority leader, assistant minority leader, minority caucus chair, and minority whip in the House, although there were no women in Senate leadership positions. Women did chair four Senate committees, four House committees, and the Joint Budget Committee.

There were only seven active League members in the state legislature in the 1995 session: Senators Pat Pascoe (Denver) and Dottie Wham (Denver); Representatives Wayne Knox (Denver), Doug Linkert (Denver), Marcy Morrison (Pikes Peak), Dan Prinster (Grand Junction), and Carol Snyder (Adams). However, there were several other legislators who had belonged to the League before they were elected to office.

Citizen Initiatives in Colorado.

Citizen initiatives increased in numbers during the early 1900s. Term Limitations passed in 1990 limited the terms of state senators to two consecutive 2-year terms and that of state representatives to four consecutive 2-year terms after the effective date of January 1991. Colorado's members of Congress were limited to two consecutive 6-year terms for senators and six consecutive 2-year terms for representatives, beginning with their first successful election after January 1, 1991. The LWVCO opposed this initiative because it appeared to violate the right of citizens to vote for representatives of their choice.

The open meetings or "Sunshine" initiative, sponsored by the Colorado Press Association and the League, failed to garner sufficient signatures on petitions to get on the ballot. The LWVCO also supported legislation sponsored by Sen. Mike Bird which passed and became a referendum to create a Colorado presidential primary election. It was approved by the voters in November 1990. Legislation to establish the structure of this election was passed in the 1991 session, with the first Presidential Primary on March 3, 1992.

In the 1992 election, Colorado voters considered thirteen initiatives — the largest number ever. The LWVCO opposed a tax limitation proposal and a proposal to deny home-rule cities the right to make laws to protect homosexuals from discrimination, which passed, and a proposed school voucher plan, which failed. Another proposal that failed was an initiated by Gov. Romer and would have levied an increased state sales tax to support the state's public schools. It was supported by the League after an unusual concurrence by local Leagues. The League supported a successful initiative to require all money from lottery profits to be used for parks and recreation instead of capital construction that included new prisons.

A most confusing array of citizen initiatives was presented to the public before the 1994 election. Of the more than 30 original proposals, several that succeeded in gathering sufficient signatures on petitions were disqualified for other reasons, litigation carried some to the Supreme Court for decision, and others were thrown out for various reasons. When the LWVCO's Ballot Issues 1994 went to the printer, the numbers of the ten proposed constitutional amendments had not yet been announced by the Secretary of State. Eventually, only seven were approved for the ballot which also included three referenda and other regional and local issues. The League's response to the confusion about the ballot proposals was to publish and distribute almost 210,000 ballot issue pamphlets, exceeding the record 90,000 in 1992.

The Colorado League was a proponent for a Campaign Finance Reform initiative in 1994. In a coalition with Common Cause, Colorado Public Interest Research Group, AARP, and about 20 other organizations, League members circulated petitions to get the issue on the November ballot. It was "up hill" all the way as volunteers and League resources were used to promote the proposal, but it failed by a narrow margin to pass in the 1994 election. Proposals for campaign finance legislation were made in the 1995 session of the General Assembly. Also, a group that had opposed the League-sponsored initiative approached the League-Common Cause-COPIRG leaders, seeking to work together for meaningful legislative action.

Council 1990.

"Mining the Mountains of Opportunity" was the theme for Council 1990, which was held on the campus of the community college in Steamboat Springs on May 19-20, 1990. The 37 voting delegates, including 9 from State Board, represented 16 local Leagues. They were welcomed by LWV Routt County President Catherine Lykken. State President Pat Johnson convened the meeting with an agenda that included reports on LWVCO activities. The LWVCO Education Fund's first project started on May 1, 1990. It was a Solid Waste Education Project (SWEP) funded by the Environmental Protection Administration and managed by Sharon Clark, with the assistance of Gerry Cummins, Clara Lou Humphrey, and Jackie Zermuehlen. The LWVCOEF provided information on solid waste management and leadership training for local Leagues that would sponsor SWEP forums and maintain publication racks in their community libraries. Each League received a stipend for this work.

Council Committee: Audrey Enevar, Jean Selch, Jeanie Ingells, Catherine Lykken, Ruby Charlton, Ralph Selch, Vera Crockett. **Reading Committee:** Joe Mickelsen, Bev Poor, and Gini McGirr.

State Board: Pat Johnson, Sandra Eid, Betsy McBride, Mary Alyce Behrns, Gretchen Nicholoff, Barbara Schulmeister, Marcia Schafer, Patti Schoedler, Roberta Ginley, Gerry Cummins, Maritza Sneddon, Marlane Gottlieb, Jo Rock.

Special Personnel: Lois Linsky, Wilma Davidson, Karen Knutson, Loretta Simonson, Diane Young, Mary Hess, Margery Johnson, Sharon Clark, CeCe Hertzman, Mary Ann Feldman-Lang.

Nominating Committee: Sue Bollman (Chair), Elaine Reeves, Jo Rock, Gerry Cummins.

Treasurer Barbara Schulmeister reported the net worth of the LWVCO to be \$38,637.83.

Lobbyist Mary Hess gave a wrap-up report on the 1990 session of the Colorado General Assembly. Sandra Eid spoke on "Sunshine Strategies" — the plans for circulating petitions for the citizen initiative that would require all governmental meetings to be open, and urged members to continue circulating petitions to place the issue on the November ballot. This initiative was sponsored by the LWVCO, the Colorado Press Association, and others. Although polls showed strong support for the initiative, it failed to garner enough petition signatures to gain a place on the ballot, in spite of the organizational work of Sandra Eid and Margaret McNamara.

The first Past-President's Award was presented to Barbara Schulmeister by Wilma Davidson who praised her exemplary service to the LWVCO administration, both as an officer on the State Board and as a volunteer. Referring to the beginning of her own term as the LWVCO president (1983-85), Davidson said:

At a time when the League's state administration was in great disarray because of changes in the office, Barbara was the mainstay of support to the in-coming president. She was the only board member who understood the needs of the state office and was willing to work there day after day to restore order so the planning for a state convention could continue successfully. Not only did she sort through the files for important information, she also learned the duplication process used at that time and helped with the preparation of the convention materials . . . while using her expertise to present the financial position of the League in a way that would be understood . . . Her ability to share in making administrative decisions gave stability to the League

organization . . . Her knowledge of finance and accounting contributed to the progress of the League's professionalism as an organization.

Highlight of the Council was the "Group Speakers Training," conducted by Karen Cronin, a professional trainer—also Gretchen Nicholoff's sister—who made these suggestions: Know your topic, Know your audience, Build the speech, Make it vivid, Plan your delivery, Control "speech fright," Establish credibility. At the Saturday luncheon, Billy Kidd, former Olympic athlete, talked about the ski industry which made Steamboat Springs and Routt County well-known to people everywhere.

Gerry Cummins, nominee for the LWVUS Nominating Committee, reported on the evolution of her League roles, including her experience on the *LWVUS Ad Hoc Committee to Keep the Grassroots Green*. In a mini-convention workshop, Sandra Eid and Pat Johnson gave overviews of program, budget, and bylaws issues expected to be addressed at the LWVUS convention in June. Delegates learned parliamentary procedure as they played the roles of delegates at a hypothetical national convention. Not every local League planned to send a delegate to convention, but they were able to have a part in understanding convention procedures.

State President Pat Johnson reported accomplishments of the LWVCO during the year that included the employment of Director of Development Margery Johnson whose contacts with major corporations netted the League both money and new equipment, the formation of the LWVCO Education Fund, the EPA Grant managed by Sharon Clark, a field service program developed by Jo Rock, and action in coalitions to extend the Sunshine Law and to protect the right to privacy. Tess McNulty had received the prestigious Chevron Conservation Award for her outstanding volunteer work for the environment, and one of eight "Celebrate Colorado" environmental awards given by Governor Romer for the first time in 1990. Pat Johnson had represented the League on the Governor's Complete Count Committee to achieve the most complete census in 1990.

Douglas County was recognized as a League, and Georgetown became a State League Unit. However, the Garfield-Eagle League had been disbanded since they no longer had a functioning membership. The statewide membership count of 1,625 was reported by Roberta Ginley, Membership Chair.

The LWVCO's New Look.

An important change for the LWVCO took place in September 1990 when the office was moved to Suite B-204 of the Brownleigh Court Building at 1410 Grant Street — an advantageous location across the street from the Capitol. This move was made possible by the generosity of Dorothy and Bruce Heitler, owners of the building, who had been supporters of the League of Women Voters for many years.

On September 5, 1990, the LWVCO moved into its new office space with almost twice the amount of floor space as had been available in the Carriage House at 1600 Race Street. It was possible to have the League's own board room and space for the administrative work, meetings, and storage. The new office also provided room, convenient to the Capitol, for meetings of the Legislative Action Committee and use by League lobbyists. The process of moving required most of the month of August, with direction of a committee of Wilma Davidson (Chair), Jean Carlberg, Diane Young, Amy Truby, Betsy McBride, Susan Bucher, and Fay Plummer. More than a dozen League members spent several days painting the new office before the move. which was supervised by Jean and Ken Carlberg.

The LWVCO Board took on a new look in 1991 when it was restructured into three standing committees — Program, Administration, and Membership Services. Each committee, chaired by a vice president, met before board meetings to draft recommendations for the consideration of the State Board. Non-board members added to the committees provided special expertise. In addition, committees on Finance, Budget, and Development were an important part of the administration of the LWVCO. Funding of League projects dramatically improved when Marge Johnson was hired as development director.

With the Solid Waste Education Project (SWEP I) funded by the Environmental Protection Administration and directed by Sharon Clark, Leaguers learned the techniques for administering such projects, and were ready to take on new responsibilities. Stipends were earned by the local Leagues that participated in the project, holding community forums on recycling and maintaining information racks at libraries. Sharon Clark was named to the Governor's Pollution Prevention Policy Board. SWEP II, to address use and recycling of household chemical products, was approved in 1992, with co-directors Gini McGirr and Jeanne Grattet, of LWV Greeley-Weld.

Establishment of the LWVCO Education Fund in March of 1990 had expanded the activities and the access to funding for League projects. Sharon Clark provided legal service in the development of bylaws and incorporation of the Fund as a tax-exempt, tax-deductible 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The Education Fund has no members, only donors and a board of directors which is composed of the same members as the State Board of the League of Women Voters of Colorado. Separate meetings and minutes of those meetings are maintained. The LWVCOEF has no specified income, but does receive revenues. Sometimes foundations and other contributors have had legal constraints on their charitable donations; the Ed Fund can receive such tax-deductible moneys. It cannot fund or be involved in partisan activities, but can use lobbying as a small part of influencing legislation committed to educational goals. The Fund may participate in activities or fund publications that are designed as voters service.

Convention 1991.

"Our Proud Partnerships — From the Grassroots to the State, from Our League Past to Our League Future" was the theme when the LWV of Larimer County hosted the LWVCO Convention on May 18-19, 1991. State President Pat Johnson convened the first session of the convention with the Credential Committee reporting the attendance of 76 delegates from 18 local Leagues, 1 member-at-large, 10 State Board delegates, and 5 Observers. The Credentials reports on Sunday morning included 76 local League delegates, 3 delegates from SLU or member-at-large, 7 State Board delegates, and 4 Observers. LWV Larimer County President Lynn Young welcomed Leaguers to convention and introduced Larimer County Commissioner Courtlyn Hotchkiss who added his welcome.

With the reminder that the LWVCO is a collection of local League members, State President Pat Johnson listed some past and future achievements of this partnership:

- "SWEP" — the Solid Waste Education Project
- Founding of the LWVCO Education Fund
- Election Reporting
- Direct Mail Donation Designation to Local Leagues
- Coordination for the Colorado Booth at the LWVUS Convention
- State Convention Silent Auction
- Local Board Training by the Field Service Crew
- Local President's Training (summer 1991)
- Speaker's Training at 1990 LWVCO Council
- Board Contact System
- Transportation Study Committee, Materials and Consensus
- International Relations Unit Materials
- Legislative Action Committee, Workshop, and LEGISLATIVE LETTER
- League Day

Accomplishments of the LWVCO during the previous two years, beginning with goal setting in the summer of 1989, were reviewed by the President. She cited real success in instituting a development program with Marge Johnson to administer the innovative ideas for fundraising, the establishment of the

Education Fund, a vigorous outreach program to strengthen local Leagues, the move to larger office space in an ideal location, and the computerization of office services. The State Board had been restructured with three standing committees sharing responsibilities for management. Projects such as the publication of **Send A Message** gave the LWVCO a higher profile in providing citizen information. The LWVCO's lobbying at the General Assembly resulted in the success of "Sunshine" legislation, even though the petition drive for the initiative had not been successful.

Convention Host Committee: Joan Boes, Pat Venable, Jackie Boss, Kathy Everett, Betty Hacker, Betty Maloney, Joyce Manchester, Linda Preston, Dorothy Udall, Pat Walsh, Kathy Winder, Lynn Young.

Ad Hoc Convention Committee: Betsy McBride (Chair), Sue Bollman, Gordon Butz, Sharon Clark, Gerry Cummins, Wilma Davidson, Sandra Eid, Roberta Ginley, Pat Johnson, Gini McGirr, Margaret McNamara, Hester McNulty, Jo Rock, Patti Schoedler, Barbara Schulmeister, Barbara Taylor.

Silent Auction Committee (LWV Arapahoe): Fay Plummer, Inge Popke, Barbara Schulmeister. **Minutes Approval Committee:** Anne Milliken (Arapahoe), Karen Wiedemann (Pikes Peak), Margaret McNamara (Denver). **Budget Adjustment Committee:** Gordon Butz, Barbara Schulmeister, Betsy McBride, local League representatives. **Parliamentarian:** Wilma Davidson. **Workbook Cover Artist:** Joanne Duffy (Boulder). **Special Staff Personnel:** Mary Hess, Lobbyist; Marge Johnson, Director of Development; Diane Young, Office Manager; Lois Linsky, Development Chair. **Program Committee Chairs:** Phyllis Horney, Fiscal Structure; Maritza Sneddon, Criminal Justice, Margaret McNamara, Campaign Finance and Voting Rights, Andrea Bloom, Natural Resources; Barbara Taylor, Solid & Toxic Waste; Hester McNulty, Water; Jo Treese, Income Assistance; Barbara Cristol, Education; Irene Ward, Health; Elaine Kaufman, Health; Eva Richards, Health; Sue Bollman, Margaret Walther, and Vicky McLane – Transportation; Joyce Weber, Health Care Study; Sharon Clark, SWEP.

State Board 1989-1991: Pat Johnson, Sandra Eid, Betsy McBride, Jo Rock, Gretchen Nicholoff, Barbara Schulmeister, Marcia Schafer, Patti Schoedler, Roberta Ginley, Gerry Cummins, Maritza Sneddon, Wilma Davidson, Deborah Hayes. Convention Secretary: Gini McGirr.

State Board 1991-1993: President Betsy McBride, Ist VP Gerry Cummins, 2nd VP Pat Mesec, 3rd VP Patti Schoedler, Secretary Gini McGirr, Treasurer Barbara Schulmeister. Directors – Sherry Luhman, Wilma Davidson, Jan McDaniell, Joan Leon, Judy Wilkinson, Jo Rock, Carolyn Thompson, Mary Lohre. Budget Chair – Gordon Butz. Nominating Committee – Marcia Schafer (Chair), Sue Bollman, Roberta Ginley.

Delegates & Observers: ADAMS – Eleanor Richards, Eleanor Dalbey. ARAPAHOE – Inge Popke, Barbara MacDonald, Susan Laffitte, Anne Milliken. ASPEN-PITKIN – Judith Burwell, Tricia McKenzie. BOULDER – Elizabeth Nick, Judith Wilkinson, Rosemary McBride, Michele Colburn, Barbara Taylor, Hester McNulty, Mary (Betty) Miller, Louisa Holmberg, Lois Linsky. DENVER – Alice Kelly, Mary Ann Feldman-Lang, Pat Wunnicke, Pam Greenberg, Doris Reed, Loretta Cohn, Mary Lohre, Nan Delaney, Janis Falkenberg, Dot Sobol, May Clark, Marge Johnson, Casey Davenport, Mac Owens, Leontine Joli, Elaine Kaufman, Margaret McNamara, Sue Bollman, Marty Sloven, Joan Johnson. DELTA – Joan Leon. DOUGLAS – Joe Mickelsen, Johanna Harden, Sharon Van Ramshorst, Jane Ferguson. GEORGETOWN – Marlys Ryan, Merinel Williams. GRAND JUNCTION – Ann Flynn, Patrene Rice, Jan McDaniell. GREELEY – Gini McGirr, Barb Whinery, Sue Bjorland. GUNNISON – Ann Gery, Pat White, Phyllis Guerrieri. JEFFERSON – Ruth Wells, Clara Lou Humphrey, Renee Roberts, Donna Johnson, Eleanor Leonard, Betty Goodwin, Vera Blaine. LARIMER – Lynn Young, Marguerite Donhowe (Estes Park), Norma Griffith, Jean McMillian, Joan Boes, Jacque Boss, Pat Venable, Evelyn Jacobi, Marion Block, Betty Maloney. LONGMONT – Marta Galnick, Carolyn Sunderlund. MORGAN – Yolanda Luebker. MONTROSE – Barbara Krebs. PIKES PEAK – Pam Bryant, Lee Ziegler, Carol Emmer, Lineah Davey, Karen Wiedemann, Sharon Clark, Elsie Rhody. PUEBLO – Rita Sims, Barbara Stevens, Janet Doll. STERLING – Mary June Myers, Diana Brungardt. ALAMOSA – Lucy Adams, MAL.

Guest Speakers: Linda Moscarella, LWVUS Board; Dr. Ruth Alexander, Colorado State University.

Delegates approved Bylaws changes that made the budget annual instead of biennial, reversing a change made several years before that had created planning difficulties. Other action included changes to conform with national Bylaws and with Bylaws changes previously adopted, and to clarify the rights of members of

provisional Leagues and State League Units and members-at-large to be delegates to convention and to serve on the State Board.

The agenda for the Council included reports on LWVCO activities. The LWVCO Education Fund's first project started on May 1, 1990. It was a Solid Waste Education Project (SWEP) funded by the Environmental Protection Administration and managed by Sharon Clark, with the assistance of Gerry Cummins, Clara Lou Humphrey, and Jackie Zermuehlen. The LWVCOEF provided information on solid waste management and leadership training for local Leagues that would sponsor SWEP forums and maintain publication racks in their community libraries. Each League received a stipend for this work.

Program adoption brought concurrence with positions that had been adopted by the Metro Denver ILO on Public Mass Transportation, Metropolitan Governance, and the Airport Location. No new study was recommended, but delegates approved the restudy of the Justice System to develop positions on sentencing and prison overcrowding, with a consensus to be reached and reported before the Convention in 1992.

The delegates directed the State Board to improve communication on how funds are distributed, publicize training programs, ask more members to serve on state board committees and volunteer time, clarify relationship of national and state program positions, provide opportunity for more dialogue between Board and members, reduce paper flow, discuss fundraising needed, and use recycled paper. Appreciation was expressed for the work of the State Board, Office Manager Diane Young, Mary Hess and the volunteer lobbyists, and Development Director Marge Johnson.

A total of 1,609 members was reported, but approximately 90 others had joined since the official count in January. This indicated that the membership had remained quite stable in 20 local Leagues and 2 SLUs. There were two Leagues in Boulder County and one League or SLU in each of 19 other counties, leaving 43 counties without a League presence except for the 18 who were League members-at-large. The San Luis Valley had not had a League for many years, but expectations were raised when Sharon Clark conducted interviews in preparation for a radio series on water development. Lucy Adams, former LWV North Dakota president and a new resident, was unsuccessful in organizing a League in Alamosa.

The "Silent Auction" of arts, crafts, and accomplishments demonstrated a kind of fundraising event which had been successful in Arapahoe County. Fay Plummer, Inge Popke, and Barbara Schulmeister were in charge. Local Leagues and the State Board shared half and half in approximately \$2,000 gained from the sales of the donated items.

In the Convention Workbook, Administrative VP Betsy McBride praised the legal counsel for the Board provided by Sharon Clark, who "set aside her environmental law practice to become our advisor through the complex and critical discussions and tax filings surrounding the founding of the LWVCO Education Fund." This was a very significant time sacrifice for Sharon Clark and represents an important contribution to our organization."

Council 1992.

It was "springtime in the Rockies" with Council held at the Silvertree Resort in Snowmass on May 15 and 16, 1992. The Aspen-Pitkin League, with co-presidents Judi Burwell and Pat Fallin, hosted a successful meeting in a beautiful location. A Leadership Seminar for local League presidents sponsored by May Clark was held the day before Council. A previous seminar had been held in August 1991.

President Betsy McBride welcomed 22 local League delegates, 2 delegates from provisional Leagues, 10 State Board members, and 8 observers. Those 34 voting delegates represented 14 local Leagues. Next was a welcoming speech by Jim Hooker, Aspen Mayor Pro Tem. On the second day, there were 18 delegates from 13 local Leagues and 10 State Board members present.

Membership of 1,546 — a slight increase from the previous year — was reported. Budget Chair Gordon Butz presented the proposed budget for 1992-93 of \$68,495. Delegates expressed strong opinion that the League should be using recycled paper for all office uses and publications, and the budget increased to reflect additional costs for a total of \$69,075 was approved.

Parliamentarian: Gerry Cummins. Credentials Chair: Pat Fallin
Delegates & Observers: ADAMS – Liz Tredennick. ARAPAHOE – Mary Alyce Behrns. ASPEN-PITKIN – Judi Burwell, Pat Fallin. BOULDER – Liz Nick, Eva Kosinski. DELTA – Gretchen Nicholoff. DENVER – Marty Sloven, Elaine Kauffman. DOUGLAS – Alice Ramsey, Pat DeForest. ESTES PARK – Irene Clark. GEORGETOWN – Elaine Hartong, Marlys Ryan. GREELEY-WELD – Jeanne Grattet, Gini McGirr. GRAND JUNCTION – Shirley Matthews, Kay Snider. JEFFCO – Ruth Wells, Anne Nesshoefer. LARIMER – Sandy McHugh. PIKES PEAK – Pam Bryant, Sharon Clark. PUEBLO – Catherine Montini. STERLING – Pat Hostbjor.
State Board: Patti Schoedler, Jo Rock, Wilma Davidson, Mary Lohre, Joan Leon, Betsy McBride, Gerry Cummins, Jan McDaniel, Judy Wilkinson, Sherry Luhman, Barbara Schulmeister.
Off-Board Observers: Diane Young, Tess McNulty, Gordon Butz, Mary Hess.

Joan Leon discussed her experience as a Rosalie Goodman Fellow at the LWVUS office during March, Gerry Cummins described her work on the national nominating committee, and Sharon Clark reported on the SWEP projects sponsored by the LWVCO Education Fund. A skit to promote the SWEP II project was presented by Jeanne Grattet and Gini McGirr. Mary Hess reported on the League activities at the General Assembly. Gerry Cummins, LWVUS Nominating Committee, chaired a "mini-convention" to prepare the delegates who planned to attend the LWVUS Convention in Boston.

Gov. Romer had met with the LWVCO Board to explain an initiative to establish a state sales tax of one cent to supplement the state support for the public schools and request endorsement by the League. A special session of the Council delegates debated what the response of the League should be in light of a long-standing position opposing regressive sales taxes as well as positions in support of measures to improve the public school system. Hester McNulty provided guidance by suggesting that the State Board prepare a statement of support which would then be referred to the local Leagues for determination of concurrence at the first unit meetings in September. Enthusiastic approval of this procedure that involved the local League members in the decision followed. This procedure was followed, and there was strong concurrence by members in all parts of the state. However, the initiative failed to pass at the November election.

Council delegates expressed enthusiasm for the tours of the Aspen recycling site and the innovative ecological home of Amory Lovins that were arranged by the Aspen-Pitkin League. Both sites showed excellent environmental management. Special awards were given to individuals and local Leagues for achievements during the year. Phyllis Horney received the Past-Presidents' Award for her expertise in preparing copy for League publications, such as **Send A Message**. Other awards were made for increasing membership and participation in League activities.

League accomplishments in 1991-1992.

Changes in League membership and activity brought the dissolution of the State League Unit in Summit County, although the members had tried hard to keep it going. After much debate and efforts by many persons, the Inter-League Organization LWV of Metro Denver was also dissolved because it was no longer viable and leadership was not available. Several local Leagues reported difficulty in filling leadership positions. Some had co-presidents or some form of shared leadership. Arapahoe County, which had always been a strong League, actually was considering merger with another League. However, a unique system of committee leadership made its continuance possible and membership increased.

A high-profile recognition of the League's citizen education role came from an arrangement with KCNC Channel 4 to produce a series called "Civics Literacy," which consisted of trivia-type questions on

government broadcast each day for several months. (Examples: How many representatives does Colorado have in Congress? Name them. Who are the elected state government officials?) Professionalism increased for the League's state office with the promotion of Diane Young to Executive Director. She also took over fundraising duties when Marge Johnson resigned to devote her time to managing her own business enterprise. Roberta Ginley was hired as a permanent, part-time office staff assistant.

Convention '92 met in Boston, and it was a very different convention for the LWVUS. The nominating process had moved forward as usual, and Colorado Leaguers were proud that Gerry Cummins served on the committee and was nominated to chair it for the biennium. However, a different and winning slate was nominated from the floor. Delegates were ready for change in view of administrative problems in the national office. They voted emphasis on four issues: Health Care, Election Reform, Right to Privacy in Reproductive Choice, and Waste Management and Pollution Control. The LWVCO State Board was represented by Betsy McBride, Wilma Davidson, Judy Wilkinson, and Barbara Schulmeister. Several local Leagues also sent delegates to the convention.

League Projects.

The Quintessential Woman tee shirt project — managed by Gerry Cummins, Patti Schoedler, and Nora Kimball — became an amazing success at the 1992 national convention as well as at home in Colorado. The shirts were printed with the names of 35 famous women in white on a variety of colors. The promotional skill of Judy Wilkinson and several Colorado League assistants proved a great success with over two hundred tee shirts sold at the national convention in Boston. Sales continued as the project was advertised and members sold them at meetings. Sweat shirts were added in 1993.

The LWVCO continued to produce educational publications to provide information on issues of government for citizens. Hester McNulty headed the committee that prepared the 1992 5th edition of **Colorado Water**, which was funded by Coors Foundation and was again a best-seller at \$3.00 for members and \$5.00 for others.⁵⁸ Joan Leon, of LWV Delta, prepared **Colorado Water: A West Slope Perspective** as supplemental unit material. A 1992 revision of **Send A Message** was distributed without charge when funding was obtained from Coors, Manville, Public Service, and Amoco. The LWVCO distributed 80,000 free copies of **Your Vote, Your Voice**, a flyer that described opportunities for citizen participation in the election process and was funded by U.S. West Communications.

League projects continued to be successful in 1992 when the Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) agreed to fund a second Solid Waste Educational Project (SWEP II), which emphasized the recycling of household chemicals and motor oil. Co-directors of the project were Gini McGirr and Jeanne Grattet, members of the LWV of Greeley-Weld County.

The Election in 1992.

As Election 1992 approached with thirteen ballot issues, League members researched and wrote arguments pro and con for **Ballot Issues 1992**, which was available to local Leagues and to the public before the end of September. Margaret McNamara (Denver) headed up the Voters Service work, with effective assistance from Pat Johnson (Boulder), who was in charge of the research of issues that was edited by Helen McIntire (Denver). Wilma Davidson (Arapahoe) and Joan Boes (Larimer) worked with the printer through three re-printings. Mary Lohre (Denver) and Elaine Reeves (Arapahoe) worked with Fred Brown of the DENVER POST to prepare a guide for Colorado voters.⁵⁹ Mary Ann McCoy (Arapahoe) led the volunteers who answered constantly-ringing "Hot Line" phones, explained the issues, and used county

⁵⁸ Hester McNulty, **Colorado Water –5th Edition** (LWVCO, 1992).

⁵⁹ League of Women Voters of Colorado, **Election Guide 1992**, Denver Post, October 27, 1992.

precinct locators to voters find their polling places. League volunteers also staffed a call-in "Help Line" at KCNC the night before the election.

The **Ballot Issues 1992** publication was more popular than ever, and the first order was insufficient. Reprintings were ordered for sales and distribution of nearly 190,000 pamphlets that earned approximately \$14,000 for the LWVCO. Local League speakers responded to hundreds of requests for ballot issue speeches from citizen groups in their communities,

A fourth-grade teacher in the Cherry Creek School District asked the LWVCO for material to use in a workshop on teaching children about the election. This was the impetus for preparation of a "Teachers Packet." The project was so successful that many teachers ordered the packet which was put together by Wilma Davidson and Margaret McNamara. It contained LWVCO publications **Your Vote, Your Voice**, and **The Political Process in Colorado**; a copy of the **U.S. Constitution**; LWVUS publications **How to Watch a Debate** and **How to Judge a Candidate**; *"Decision '92"* (a poster featuring actors in a TV series called *"Wayne's World"*); and a Colorado Women's Suffrage Celebration flyer. The poster was made available by NBC through KCNC (Channel 4), and was part of a project in which the LWVUS and NBC were cooperating in promoting information to encourage young people to vote.

Although the 18 to 25 age group did not seem to be invested enough to vote in large numbers, it is believed that this kind of project will increase participation in the future. A high record of voting by almost 80 percent of registered voters was reported. For several years, women have been reported to make up more than half of all voters in the United States.

1993 LWVCO publications.

Send a Message, the LWVCO's Colorado Directory of National & State Officials was published with the information on officials elected or appointed during the previous year. Amoco Production Company provided some funding, but it was necessary to sell this publication at \$1.25 per copy or \$2.00 if mailed. The 5,000 copies printed sold well.

The Political Process in Colorado was revised to include the process of Initiative and Referendum, reapportionment, and other current information. It was successfully marketed at the Education Expo at the Denver Convention Center, where **Send a Message** and other publications were given free.

Convention 1993.

There were 83 voting delegates at the first session on Saturday, 71 from local Leagues, 1 from a provisional League, and 11 State Board members when the LWVCO Convention met at the Radisson Hotel in Colorado Springs. They represented 18 local Leagues. On Sunday, another provisional League member and three observers were present, for a total of 84 voting delegates.

Opposition to Amendment 2, which had passed in 1992 and most Leaguers regarded as discriminatory, caused members to consider refusing to attend the state convention which was planned to be held in Colorado Springs, the base for the "Family Values" coalition that had promoted the amendment in 1992. However, the LWVCO Board's thoughtful decision "to honor our commitment to our outstanding Pikes Peak League and have a good convention in Colorado Springs" was expressed by President Betsy McBride in a letter to local Leagues.

On Saturday afternoon, delegates gathered at the Pioneer Museum for a rally to celebrate the woman suffrage centennial and to make a statement of support for protecting the rights of all people regardless of lifestyle. The League has held a non-discrimination position for many years.

Parliamentarian: Dottie Harmon. **1993 Minutes Approval Committee:** Jean Grattet (Greeley-Weld), Liz Tredennick (Adams), and Mary Ann McCoy (Arapahoe). Budget Adjustment Committee: Barbara Schulmeister (Arapahoe), Gordon Butz (Denver), Pat Mesec (Jeffco), Marlys Ryan (Georgetown), and a representative of each local League. **Credentials Committee:** Lee Zeigler (Pikes Peak), Roberta Ginley (Denver), and Diane Young (Denver). **Arrangements:** Pat Mesec (State Board) and Pikes Peak members Lee Ziegler, Pam Bryant, Lineah Davey, Elizabeth Hacker, Mina Kidd, Jean Swartzendruber, Joan Frederick, Annette Kester, Maureen Jeter.

Delegates & Observers: Gerry Sarconi, Liz Tredennick (ADAMS); Dian Miller, Mary Alyce Behrns, Mary Ann McCoy, Sharon Bainbridge, Amy Boykin (ARAPAHOE); Pat Fallin, Judy Burwell (ASPEN-PITKIN); Liz Black, Debra Rahm, Marcy Rodney, Susan Kintzle, Barbara Taylor, Hester McNulty, Beth Dickinson, Jane McNamara, Angelika Schroeder (BOULDER); Helen Denison (DELTA); Marty Sloven, Vivian Dodds, Pat Buchanan, Ruth Afifi, Marilyn Shuey, Margaret McNamara, Genny Weston, Roberta Ginley, Shirley Weaver, Pat Wunnicke, Maxine Kurtz, Elaine Kaufman, Amy Truby, Mary Jo Spiro, Alice West, Gordon Butz, Mary Hess, Kathleen Prock (DENVER); Alice Ramsey, Suzanne LaRue (DOUGLAS); Irene Clarke, Helen Hondius, Betty Lang, Marty Graves (ESTES PARK); Barbara Storter (GRAND JUNCTION), Barbara Whinery, Jean Grattet (GREELEY), Marlys Ryan, Elaine Hartong (GEORGETOWN); Marcia Schafer, Ann Nesshoefer, Vera Blaine, Eleanor Leonard, Amy DeWitt, Beth Hancock, John Wason, Jessie Wilford, Alicita Hamilton, Joan Havercroft (JEFFCO); Kathy Winder, Ayleen Burns, Lil Price, Joan Boes (LARIMER); Joan Whittemore, Stacia Keller, Kris Stahl, Patty Sears (LONGMONT); Carol Powers, Lineah Davey, Lee Ziegler, Carol Emmer, Elsie Rhody, Donna Morse, Annette Kester, Vicki McClain (PIKES PEAK); Beverly Poor, Barbara Stevens, Jean Williams (PUEBLO); Audrey Enever, Peggy Nieman (ROUTT); Pat Hostbjor, Cathy Heckel (STERLING).

State Board and Specialists: Jan McDaniel, Gerry Cummins, Pat Mesec, Barbara Schulmeister, Patty Schoedler, Jo Rock, Wilma Davidson, Judy Wilkinson, Joan Leon, Gini McGirr, Betsy McBride, Diane Young, Mary Hess, Roberta Ginley, Gordon Butz, Cece Hertzman. Guest: Mary Jo Wagner.

President McBride reported on the objectives of LWVCO, during the past two years to increase the professionalism of the organization by recognition of the high quality of work by volunteers, the naming of Diane Young as Executive Director, and financial support for operating and program expenses. She praised the work of Board members who provided liaison with local Leagues through field service and program, as well as action on program positions. Development proceeded successfully in the sales of the "Quintessential Women" T-shirts and publications, and fundraising by direct mail and corporate solicitation. In closing her report, she said:

We paused several times this year to celebrate our historic roots in the suffrage movement. As female activists, we owe a great deal to those who gave of their time and their treasure to provide civic opportunity to the women of the future. As we face the future, we owe, both the daughters of suffrage and all other citizens, a determined, effective and healthy organization. It will require a continuing investment of time and treasure to safeguard our very unique organization.

Convention delegates participated in celebrating the centennial of voting rights for Colorado women through a skit presented by Mary Jo Wagner of the Celebration Coalition and a display of suffrage items and the history of the League of Women Voters in Colorado. A 25-minute video produced by the LWV of Arapahoe County was shown between sessions of the convention. It included the history of the suffrage movement in Colorado, clips from the St. Patrick's Day Parade (1993) marchers from the coalition, and interviews with four League members that illustrated how Colorado women are using their political equity: Peggy Kerns – state legislator, Susan Laffitte – homemaker with young children, Marjorie Ledell – school board director, and Betsy McBride – president of the League of Women Voters of Colorado. The video was used by local Leagues and other organizations as they celebrated the centennial of voting rights for Colorado women.

Two studies were adopted by the delegates:

I. EDUCATION: Re-study of the role of the State of Colorado in determining policies and standards for Pre-K–12 education. Scope: tasks, powers, sanctions.

II. INITIATIVE PROCESS: A new study of the initiative process in Colorado to include, but not be limited to, a presentation of the current law, a review of the initiative process, consideration of qualifications for the ballot and the vote quantity required to change the state constitution.

Changes in the LWVCO bylaws included a major change in the election of the State Board. The second vice-president and secretary would be elected at councils in the even-numbered years. The president, first vice-president, third vice-president, and treasurer would be elected at conventions in the odd-numbered years.

The proposed budget for July 1, 1993 through June 30, 1994, in the amount of \$77,771 was presented by Budget Committee Chair Gordon Butz. The budget was approved by the delegates, but a proposal for specific "Advocacy Support" was voted down.

Delegates approved the slate presented by the Nominating Committee: PRESIDENT, Betsy McBride (Arapahoe); VP – PROGRAM, Wilma Davidson (Arapahoe); VP – ADMINISTRATION, Barbara Schulmeister (Arapahoe); VP – MEMBERSHIP SERVICES, Sherry Luhman (Douglas); SECRETARY, Barbara Storter (Grand Junction); DIRECTORS: Sue Anderson (Boulder); Sharon Clark (Pikes Peak); Pat Fallin (Aspen-Pitkin);, Lois Linsky (Boulder); Jan McDaniel (Grand Junction); Marlys Ryan (Georgetown); Judy Wilkinson (Boulder). BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIR: Gordon Butz (Denver). NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Jo Rock, Chair (Jeffco); Marcia Schafer (Jeffco); Gerry Cummins (Arapahoe). Following the convention, Sue Anderson agreed to fill the vacancy for TREASURER. When Sherry Luhman moved to Florida, Judy Wilkinson became VICE PRESIDENT – MEMBERSHIP SERVICES. Jeannette Hillary (Boulder) was appointed as a director. Jane McNamara (Boulder) was appointed a director to chair the Education Study Committee. Margaret McNamara (Denver) was named VOTERS SERVICE DIRECTOR, effective in January 1994,

Board reports included the success of the Education Fund grants from the Environmental Protection Administration for the Solid Waste projects I and II, the effects of the passage of the tax limitation initiative (Amendment 1 – 1992), the distribution of almost 200,000 Ballot Issues pamphlets covering 13 issues, the Leadership conferences funded by May Clark, and a statewide increase of 5.6% in membership. In addition to **Ballot Issues 1992**, other publications included a Teachers Packet on the election process, 5,000 copies of **Send A Message**, 250 copies of **The Political Process in Colorado**, and 80,000 copies of **Your Vote, Your Voice** (funded by U.S. West and distributed at no charge). Approximately \$14,000 was earned from **Ballot Issues 1992**. Camera-ready copy prepared in the office made publications less expensive, thus more profitable. **Advocacy Agenda** is revised after each convention. Publications by the League have established the League's credibility and reputation for fair, unbiased information that is available to the public.

Celebrating women's right to vote.

The century of voting rights for Colorado women was celebrated in 1993. The League and many other organizations joined a coalition which planned a series of celebrations and encouraged groups in communities throughout the state to develop their own plans. The coalition developed an exhibit that was shown in libraries and museums in various parts of the state. A dinner honored 100 women who played important roles in Colorado's history. The list included five League members. The reception at the Governor's Mansion honored the 143 women elected or appointed to the legislature. At least 24 of these women were members of the League. Denver's St. Patrick's Day Parade offered an occasion for participation of about 100 people to celebrate the woman suffrage centennial. Publications, speeches, and

videos were produced to publicize the celebration. Governor Roy Romer issued a *Proclamation of Recognition*.

League members Senator Pat Pascoe and Representative Ruth Wright introduced a resolution recognizing the centennial in their respective legislative houses. The resolution was co-sponsored by 99 of the 100 legislators and passed unanimously. Pascoe was costumed and spoke in the role of Colorado's first woman senator, Helen Ring Robinson, as she introduced the resolution. Wright portrayed Martha Conine, elected to the House in 1896.

LWVCO Board Committee Structure.

The State Board continued to be structured with three standing committees charged with conducting the business of the State League. President Betsy McBride was ex officio on each committee.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – chaired by Barbara Schulmeister, Vice President for Administration. Board members on the committee: Sue Anderson, Pat Fallin, and Lois Linsky.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE – chaired by Wilma Davidson, Vice President for Program. The responsibility for promoting League program was shared by three sub-committees. Margaret McNamara chaired the *Voters Service Committee*. Sharon Clark and Barbara Storter were co-chairs of the *Education Committee* which was responsible for oversight of the committees on the study of the *Initiative Process* chaired by Gerry Cummins and re-study of Education chaired by Jane McNamara. An *Advocacy Committee* chaired by Jeannette Hillery consisted of the Program Vice President of each local League and these specialists: Legislative Action Committee Chair – Marilyn Shuey. General Lobbyist – Mary Hess. Social Policy – Pat Ruh. Natural Resources – Hester McNulty. School Finance – Barbara Cristol. Government – Sandra Eid. Campaign Finance – Pat Johnson. Reproductive Choice – Mary Ann Feldman-Lang. Gun Control – Alice West. International Relations Specialist – Beverly Long. Grassroots Action Network on Health Care – Elaine Kaufman.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE – chaired by Judith Wilkinson. Board members on this committee each had specific assignments to improve and maintain communication with local League members. Jan McDaniel edited the Colorado Voter. The committee developed plans for leadership conferences, member recruitment, database maintenance, and other services for League members.

VOTERS SERVICE COMMITTEE – Margaret McNamara, Chair. This committee was not activated until 1994. The only issue on the ballot for November 1933 was a referendum for the continuation of the Tourism Tax. **Ballot Issues 1993** was published by the League to provide fair, nonpartisan information for the public.

State Board Committees that functioned for the specific purposes included Development, Finance & Budget, and Publications. These committees gave the League administration much-needed professionalism in carrying out the League mission of education and advocacy.

Council 1994.

The Holiday Inn in Grand Junction was the location of the LWVCO's Council in 1994. President Betsy McBride, Mesa County Commissioner Doralyn Genova, and Grand Junction LWV President welcomed 22 delegates from 14 local Leagues, 10 State Board members, and 8 observers. An additional welcome came from Sen. Tilman Bishop. The President then gave a "State of the League of Women Voters of Colorado" address.

Delegates & Observers: ADAMS – Gerry Sarconi, Theresa Lees. ARAPAHOE – Diann Miller, Toni Paul. ASPEN-PITKIN – Judi Burwell. BOULDER VALLEY – Liz Black, Sue Anderson. DELTA – Gretchen Nicholoff. DENVER – May Clark, Marty Sloven, Roberta Ginley. DOUGLAS – Alice Ramsey, Charlotte Sholes. GRAND JUNCTION – Carol Courtney, Eileen Williams, Barbara Butcher, Dianne Rice. GREELEY-WELD – Jeane Grattet, Gini McGirr. GUNNISON – Phyllis Guerrieri. JEFFCO – Amy DeWitt, Marcia Schafer. LARIMER – Sandy McHugh, Betty Cummings. LONGMONT – Stacia Keller. PIKES PEAK – Mary Bridgham, Lineah Davey.

State Board: Betsy McBride, Wilma Davidson, Jeannette Hillery,, Pat Fallin, Jan McDaniel, Jane McNamara, Cynthia Peterson, Marilyn Shuey, Barbara Storter, Judy Wilkinson.

Presenters: Gordon Butz, Betty Cummings, Mary Hess, Pat Johnson, Tess McNulty.

Minutes Approval Committee: Jean Grattet, Cynthia Peterson, Sue Anderson.

Budget Adjustment Committee: Gordon Butz and Pat Fallin.

No adjustments were needed for the proposed budget of \$83,166; it was approved by the delegates as presented. A new computerized accounting system was being developed and expected to be on-line very soon. When the financial statement was presented, a delegate suggested that "a one-page balance sheet would be helpful and could take the place of an item-by-item review."

Implementing the bylaws changes made at the 1993 Convention provided for "staggering board positions so that there is carryover of experience and institutional memory from board to board." The slate of State Board nominations consisted of: 2nd VP Pat Fallin (Aspen-Pitkin), Secretary Barbara Storter (Grand Junction), and Directors for 2-year terms: Jeannette Hillery (Boulder Valley), Marilyn Shuey (Denver), and Margaret McNamara (Denver). On the Nominating Committee were: Jo Rock, Marcia Schafer, Gerry Cummins, Judy Wilkinson, and Pat Fallin. It was announced that Betsy McBride was resigning as President, as she was moving to Pennsylvania. Wilma Davidson was to take over as president with Pat Johnson elected by the Board to take the 1st VP position, effective at the close of Council.

Special reports were made on the Program Agenda. Jane McNamara reported that the Education study was in progress and materials and consensus questions should be ready by League Day, with the expectation that a position for action would be in place when the legislative session begins in 1995. A consensus on the Initiative study was also planned for fall units, although committee people were involved with the Campaign Finance Reform initiative. The **Ballot Issues** pamphlet were expected to be in great demand before the 1994 election in November.

Gini McGirr, who returned from her new home in Arizona, and Jean Grattet entertained delegates with a skit as a report on the SWEP II project of the Education Fund. President McBride praised Gini and Jean for their administration of the successful project, thanked Sharon Clark (in absentia) for her efforts with SWEP I, and presented a "*Super Cleanup Award*" to the Pueblo League.

Legislative Action Committee Chair Marilyn Shuey gave the Legislative Wrap-up Report, estimating that volunteers had put in several hundred hours of lobbying and observing legislative committees. Mary Hess was given a gift and received a standing ovation for her nine years spent as the League lobbyist. Her integrity, tenacity, and understanding of the political process received special emphasis. An overview of accomplishments and problems was given by Mary Hess, Marilyn Shuey, Tess McNulty, and Jeannette Hillery. They noted the frustration of legislators working within the parameters of Amendment 92-1. Marilyn Shuey was commended for her work for gun control legislation.

Circulation of petitions for the Campaign Finance Reform initiative was a principal subject at this Council, and delegates were reminded to wear League identification badges when passing petitions. Jeannette Hillery gave a report on the opportunity for League advocacy on all levels. Tess McNulty conducted a Mini LWVUS Convention especially for delegates who plan to attend the 1994 Convention, stressing that delegates should be assertive and feel empowered. Delegates gave direction to the LWVCO Board, including that of Lineah Davey of Pikes Peak LWV: "Consider time needs and member-power of local LWVs when planning calendar deadlines for programs and consensus. Please do not overload one

section of the year." Gretchen Nicholoff (Delta LWV) extended an invitation on behalf of the Delta and Montrose Leagues to Council in Montrose in 1996.

Meeting in Washington, Convention '94 was the first for a new board of directors with many new ideas. Technology in management of the League was stressed. Becky Cain, national president, announced an exciting plan for celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the League. The 1996 Convention would take place in Chicago, the birthplace of the League, and special trains would be chartered to bring delegates to Chicago to take part in the festivities. Issues for emphasis during the 1994-96 biennium were adopted: Health Care, Early Intervention for Children at Risk, Crisis in the Community, and Opening Government to Citizens. Colorado Leagues sent 18 delegates to Convention: STATE BOARD – Wilma Davidson, Pat Johnson, Jeannette Hillery, ARAPAHOE – Jane Rieck; BOULDER – Liz Black, Hayden Williamson; DENVER – Marty Sloven, Amy Truby, Patty Cordova, Roberta Ginley, Beverly Long; GRAND JUNCTION – Carol Courtney; JEFFCO – Marcia Schafer, Ann Nesshoefer; LARIMER – Myrtle Hausrath; PIKES PEAK – Carol Emmer, Lineah Davey; STERLING – Cathy Heckel.

League Day 1994

The LWVCO's League Day was held at the Arvada Center for the Performing Arts on September 24, 1994. The program of the day included a review of the 1994 ballot issues by Margaret McNamara, a briefing on the questions for taking consensus on the Education study by Betty Seeland, and a report on the campaign finance reform initiative by Pat Johnson. Jeannette Hillery presented a workshop entitled, "*Solid Waste in Your County*." A workshop on "*Consequences of NAFTA*" was presented by Beverly Long. The day closed following a workshop on how to work against "Douglas Bruce's Amendment 12 on Election Reform" by Pat Johnson and Gerry Cummins.

At the close of the 1994 session, Mary Hess retired as the League's lobbyist in the General Assembly. Succeeding her was Bill Vandenburg, who introduced himself in legislative committees as "representing the League of Women Voters, an equal opportunity employer." He worked with Gerry Cummins handling field service on the circulation of campaign finance petitions.

Publications in 1994-1995

Publications had become increasingly important to the League, recognizing that the nonpartisan, factual publications of the League have been responsible in large degree for the League's reputation and credibility. **Ballot Issues 1994** were available for the local Leagues at League Day. Over 210,000 were printed for distribution. Many were underwritten for the local Leagues. Some were distributed free and others were sold at 25 cents each (plus postage if mailed). This was an excellent source of income for the League — about \$26,000.

For the first time, the LWVCO's study material was printed in the **Colorado Voter** for every member to see. The Education study committee published "*Education in Colorado: The Debate Continues*" and "*Early Childhood Education in Colorado*." The committee that was researching the initiative process published "*Ballot Issues: The Initiative Process in Colorado*." A second edition of **Colorado: The State We're In** was published in February of 1995, as a complete revision of the earlier publication. Funding was by the LWVCO Education Fund, the Education Fund of the League of Women Voters of Denver, and the Colorado Bar Foundation. The Denver League also funded **Send a Message**, the 1995 Colorado Directory of National and State Officials. In February 1995, the LWVCO Education Fund published **Financing Political Campaigns in Colorado**, to provide information for Coloradans "of the trends in financing Colorado elections and to contribute to the public dialogue on this subject." Colorado Common Cause and Colorado Public Interest Research Foundation assisted with gathering and analyzing statistics. Financial support was provided by the Center for a New Democracy and the Arca Foundation. **Your Role at Rocky Flats**, a guide to public participation opportunities, was published in April by LWVCO Ed Fund.

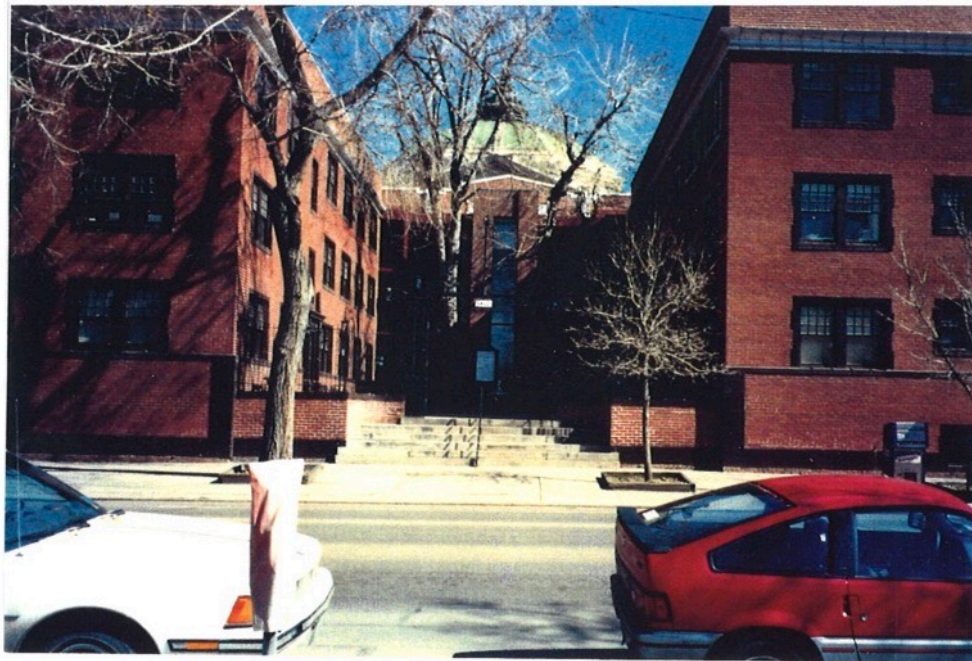
Celebrating the 75th Anniversary.

In the closing months of 1994, the LWVCO prepared to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters and the adoption of the 19th Amendment. The League's Legislative Conference was moved from its usual December date to February 14, the founding date of the League, and combined with the Anniversary Celebration. Jane Rieck (LWV Arapahoe) was appointed to coordinate the celebration, along with Marilyn Shuey, Legislative Action Director, and Executive Director Diane Young. Jeannette Hillery and Laurie DiBattista also worked with them to develop displays, program plans, and publicity.

The *75th Anniversary Celebration and Legislative Conference* was held at the Colorado Historical Museum, with 140 League members in attendance. The morning program included a keynote speech on suffrage history by former State Representative Mary Blue, who is a member of the Longmont League. Panels presented information on legislation concerning the Colorado Children's Code and Land Use "Takings."

After an elegant catered lunch, those present were welcomed by State President Wilma Davidson, with a speech entitled: "Carrie and the Pols," which included the words of Carrie Chapman Catt as she outlined the need for League members in the "non-partisan and all-partisan," semi-political organization to be active in political parties. Candles were lighted on an anniversary cake which represented the contributions of at least \$75 to an anniversary fund. Mary Hess, former League lobbyist, presented certificates of appreciation to three members of the League who have been outstanding legislators: Senator Dottie Wham, Representative Wayne Knox, and former Representative Ruth Wright. Honored guests who were introduced included May Clark, LWV Denver, and representatives of the foundations that had contributed to the LWVCO Education Fund's publications. The celebration closed with remarks by Senator Dennis Gallagher in praise of women voters.

Plans were made to continue the 75th Anniversary celebration at the state convention of the League of Women Voters of Colorado, scheduled to take place on May 20-21, at Denver's Executive Tower Inn.



Brownleigh Court, 1410 Grant Street, Denver



**Marge Johnson, Development Director
LWVCO Convention 1991**



**Margaret McNamara
League Day 1994**



**Capitol Hill demonstration for Health Care
LWVUS Convention 1994 – Washington**



**Bette Seeland
League Day 1994**



**May Clark, LWV Denver
LWVCO Convention 1991**



Pat Johnson & Betsy McBride with
Pueblo Leaguers — May 1991



LWVCO Legislative Action Com
celebrates League's 70th Annive



Carol Courtney, Wilma Davidson, Pat Johnson
study LWWUS Convention Workbook
1994 — Washington



Pat Johnson & Betsy McBride with
Pueblo Leaguers — May 1991



LWVCO Legislative Action Committee
celebrates League's 70th Anniversary 1990



Carol Courtney, Wilma Davidson, Pat Johnson
study LWVUS Convention Workbook
1004 — Washington



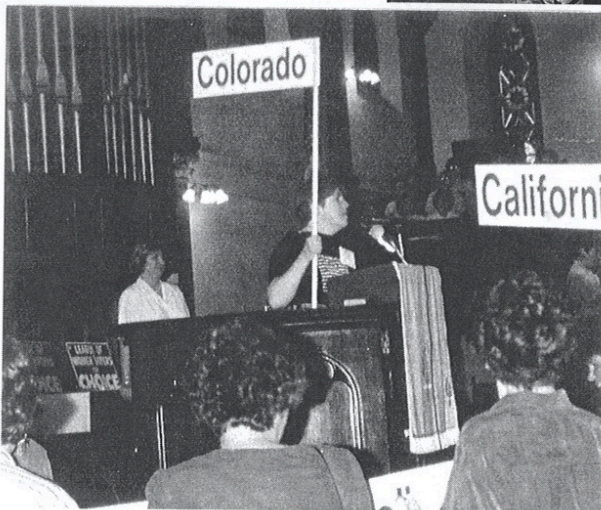
Nora Kimball & Pat Johnson
LWVCO Council 1992 – Snowmass



Colorado delegates parade for CHOICE
LWVUS Convention 1992 – Boston



Cathy Heckel (Sterling), Carol Courtney (Grand Junction),
Hayden Williamson (Boulder) at LWVUS Convention 1994



Colorado President Betsy McBride
Roll Call at LWVUS Convention 1992



Sarah Weddington speaks for CHOICE
LWVUS Convention 1992 – Boston