



Denver VOTER

League of Women Voters of Denver

October 2017

www.LWVDenver.org
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Happy 85th Birthday, LWV Denver!



Alice Kelly, Diane Young and Mary Hess blow out the candles on a special birthday cake presented at the celebratory luncheon at the Brown Palace Thursday, September 14. Over 165 League members and their guests gathered to hear about the rich history of our local League and to receive a copy of the newly published book: *A Brief History of the League of Women Voters of Denver 1932 to 2017, 85 Years of Service, Education and Advocacy* dedicated to the memory of Kay Schomp. A generous grant from the Schomp family allows us to publish and distribute this book to every member free of charge. Luncheon guests left with a copy, and anyone who was not there is welcome to come to the office and pick up a personal copy.

Mistress of Ceremonies, Anne Trujillo, from Channel 7 News, read the proclamation from the City & County of Denver congratulating the League of Women Voters of Denver on its anniversary. Former Mayor Wellington Webb gave us some thoughtful comments on the state of the city and took questions from the audience.

We thank Lorie Young and her committee of former League presidents for planning this elegant event. We also thank the intrepid history committee for their gathering of information, writing of stories and for publishing this special keepsake book.

Bobbie Heisterkamp

General Obligation Bonds

Tuesday, October 3, 5:30 p.m.
Montview Presbyterian Church
McCullum Room

Big Money in School Board Elections

Monday, October 16, 5:30 p.m.
Montview Presbyterian Church
McCullum Room

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 17-0992

Celebrating the Denver League of Women Voters' 85th Birthday

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of Denver began in 1932 as the Denver Women's Citizen League as an affiliate of both the state and the national leagues; and

WHEREAS, by 1941, the group was officially "The League of Women Voters of Denver" and is now a non-partisan organization which encourages the informed and active participation of Denver citizens in their democracy at all levels; and

WHEREAS, the group champions governmental systems that are open, transparent, representative, responsive, accountable, efficient, inclusive, equitable and that engage broad and meaningful citizen input; and

WHEREAS, to achieve these goals in the Denver community, the League has consistently been the source of fair and impartial pro and con information on local ballot questions, in addition to sponsoring candidate debates and forums for local elections; and

WHEREAS, the League has a record of strong advocacy for quality education for all Denver children including working in conjunction with community groups to ensure peaceful school desegregation in the 1970's and supporting other initiatives to improve public education; and

WHEREAS, the League has also supported measures to ensure adequate and affordable housing for all Denver residents, such as the concept of dispersed public housing; and

WHEREAS, the League has worked to protect the citizen's right to know by promoting open meetings and records at the local level of government including the Denver executive and legislative branch, as well as, the Denver School Board.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver hereby congratulates the Denver League of Women Voters on its 85th birthday celebration at the Brown Palace Hotel on September 14 and thanks the group for its significant contribution to informed and inclusive governance in Denver.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that copies be transmitted to Marge Fisch, Director of Organization; Marty Sloven, Director of Program; and, Pearlann Zelarney, Director of Communications.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

ALB

PRESIDENT

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in annual membership dues.

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General Obligation Bonds on the November Ballot

Tuesday, October 3
5:30 p.m. Social Time/Announcements
6:00 p.m. Program Begins

McCollum Room
Montview Presbyterian Church

NOW IS THE TIME...

to get a heads up on GOBond or General Obligation bonds, the seven forward-looking ballot issues that are sure to be widely discussed this October prior to the November election.

A City Council member will discuss the \$937 million package of civic improvements needed to keep pace with Denver's fast growing population. A presenter from the Mayor's GOBond committee will discuss the overarching perspective of the mayor's office and the committee's extensive outreach and information gathering efforts.

Mark your calendar for the interesting briefing on October 3 that is sure to be followed by a typically lively questions and answers session.

Carol Andersen

School Board Elections in Colorado – Who's Funding Those Campaigns?

Monday, October 16
5:30 p.m. Social Time/Announcements
6:00 p.m. Program Begins

McCollum Room
Montview Presbyterian Church

A large chunk of everyone's taxes (state income and local property) goes to support public schools, making it incumbent, one would think, on voters to pay close attention to the election of school board members who will be spending their money. School board races are notoriously ignored by many, especially those who do not have children in school.

On Monday, October 16, we will hold a public briefing on the funding of school board campaigns. Few people know that there are no campaign limits for school board elections in Colorado, nor do we really know who is funding these campaigns. This information applies not only to the city of Denver but to all school board races in Colorado.

Peg Perl, our guest speaker, was most recently senior counsel for Colorado Ethics Watch, a nonpartisan organization focusing on government ethics, campaign finance, fair elections, and open records. She currently directs her own agency, Democracy TNG, offering programs and workshops on democracy education and civic empowerment.

She will be speaking on the issues surrounding school board campaign finance, including outside spending, contributions to candidates and disclosures. She was part of the team that worked on the state legislation in 2016 to change reporting deadlines for school board races.

The League will also briefly cover the ballot issues to be on the November 7 ballot and have the always well-received Pro/Con brochures available.

Sally Augden

Now to the Greenhouse

Sometime in mid-October, over 15,000 flower bulbs will arrive at the City Park Greenhouse for hearty Leaguers to count into dozens and package into the multitude of orders that we sold last spring. Although we sold fewer bulbs than either of the last two years, we considered the sale a success. It's still a lot of bulbs!

I will contact those who have worked before when we have a shipping date. Because we don't know how long the bulbs stay in customs in New York, we can't ever predict the exact date until the bulbs are on the road. I will keep you posted. We will work in the same location we have always worked, at the City Park Greenhouse at 2500 E. 23rd Ave., just off the first entrance to the park going east on 23rd Ave. We will work from 8:30 – 2:30. The greenhouse usually closes at 2:30, but it is usually getting very hot by then, so better for us. The work involves standing on cement, but if some of you who haven't done this before want



to give it a try, please let me know. It's fun to be part of the camaraderie.

When the orders are ready, which usually takes two or three days, please pick up the bulbs you sold and deliver them as soon as you can. Although there is still plenty of time to plant and usually too warm, most customers want the bulbs sooner rather than later. The greenhouse is too hot to be a good place to store bulbs. Delivering your bulbs quickly also avoids having to pay for errors. We do make errors, and finding them before the remaining bulbs are donated to the parks avoids losses. Although we didn't specifically order extra bulbs this year, because we have to order in large quantities, we always have some bulbs to sell. If you are interested, let

me know.

See you at the greenhouse.

Marty Sloven, Bulb Sale Chair

MSloven25@aol.com or 303-333-3148

Units in Place

The seven Denver Units are preparing for the new League year.

Continuing as Leaders: Joan Friend (Buffalo), Cindy Sestrich (Cheesman) assisted by Mary Ann Thompson, Peg Oldham (Cherrington) with Andrea Mitchell as Co-Leader, Peggy Pitchford (Whiteman) assisted by Louise Haggerty. Mary Zigler and Joan Gendreau continue to serve as St. Vrain's Leader and Co-Leader. New Leaders include Anne Duncan at Highland/Woodbury, assisted by Mary Ann Feldman-Lang. Observatory leaders swapped places with Jeanette Scotland as Unit Leader assisted by Marion Colliander. Most units have filled essential recorder, legislative reporter, notification, and finance positions.

Accommodating members' needs and encouraging new membership, units still offer choice: Buffalo, Highland/Woodbury and Observatory meet in the evening; Ob-

servatory, Cheesman, Whiteman and St. Vrain meet mornings; Cherrington meets in the afternoon. St. Vrain and Highland/Woodbury meet once a month; Buffalo, Cheesman, Cherrington, Observatory and Whiteman usually meet twice each month.

Three units report new members: Buffalo added Ali Michelson and Robyn Forsyth, Highland/Woodbury's membership now includes Dana Rinderknecht, and a new member in Observatory is Janet Hunter.

Gearing up for the challenging year ahead, units have scheduled meetings for September and October. Lively discussion at unit gatherings will follow the September 18 "Drinks and Dialogue" with Secretary of State, who 'dialogued' with Leaguers on voter suppression. The October 3 briefing on the complex GO Bond guarantees to enlighten and educate.

Glenda Prosser, Unit Organization

Help Wanted

Timers for our candidate and issues forums. October 10, 12 or 17. First event begins at 7 p.m. Location: Denver 8 studio on Cherokee Street. Also need questions for the school board candidates. Please email Nancy Ulrich, nan15_lwv@comcast.net or call 303.359.1484.

Unit Meetings: A place for lively conversation!

Buffalo

No meetings in October

Members to attend evening briefings.
For info contact Joan Friend
303-596-1022

303-629-0614

Thu., Oct. 26, 1:00 p.m.

Andrea Mitchell
36 S. Garfield
303-277-0527

3350 So. Clermont St.
303-479-4368

St. Vrain

Wed., Oct. 24, 9:15 a.m.

Vivian Dodds
1565 S. Dexter Way
303-756-0150

Cheesman

Tue., Oct. 10, 9:30 a.m.

Ann Kusic
1122 E. Archer Pl.
303-377-3583

Tue., Oct. 24, 9:30 a.m.

Carolyn Georgeson
790 Washington St. #301
303-863-8522

Highland/Woodbury

Wed., Oct. 4, 5:45 p.m.

W. 29th Avenue Restaurant
5560 W. 29th Ave.
Contact Sally Augden
303-455-5800

Whiteman

Tue., Oct. 10, 9:15 a.m.

Peggy Pitchford
2661 S. Zurich Ct.
303-936-3656

Tue., Oct. 24, 9:15 a.m.

Connie Bean
5138 S. Perry St.
303-798-0256

Cherrington

Thu., Oct. 12, 1:00 p.m.

Marcia Verba
910 S. Clayton Way

Observatory

Tue., Oct. 10, 7:00 p.m.

Carol Pace
7804 E. Colgate Pl.
303-751-4125
Tue., Oct. 24, 7:00 p.m.
Jeanette Scotland

October Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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				

- 3 Go Bonds Briefing, 5:30 p.m., McCollum Room
- 10 Board Meeting, 3:30 p.m., League Office
- 16 Money in School Board Elections Briefing, 5:30 p.m. McCollum Room

November Briefing Date Set

Mark your calendars for Thursday, November 16.

The Denver ballot content for the November 7, 2017 Coordinated Election can be found on denvergov.org.

More Photos from our 85th Birthday Party



Event Chair Lorie Young, Former Mayor Wellington Webb, and MC Anne Trujillo.



Vote to Celebrate!

On a warm, late Sunday afternoon in August, the League of Women Voters of Colorado hosted "A Vote to Celebrate", honoring the passing of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote in federal elections. Members of the committee included Deb Armbruster, Patty Cordova, Gerry Cummins, Bobbie Heisterkamp, Mary Dee Morrow, and Nancy Ulrich. The event was held at the Molly Brown Summer House, where attendees could enjoy the beautiful gardens and a tour of the house.

Dennis Gallagher, a long-time city and state official, member of LWV Denver, and calligrapher extraordinaire, created a name tag for each attendee. Nancy Crow, LWV Colorado President, kicked the program off with a warm welcome, followed by MoMo Shearer, whose family has owned the Molly Brown Summer House since the late 1920s. Ms. Shearer gave a brief and interesting history of the house.

Dennis Gallagher, master story-teller, presented, in story-form, the history on the "War of the Roses," which was Congress's vote for the passage of the 19th Amendment. The 19th Amendment passed by one vote from a brave Congressman, Representative Harry Burn from Tennessee. Before Representative Burn went to vote, his mother sent him a letter, reminding him to . . . "Just do the right thing." Today, a yellow rose signifies a "yes" vote for the right of women to vote.

Mary Dee Morrow

Members, offer this application to friends and neighbors!

League of Women Voters of Denver
1980 Dahlia Street
Denver, CO 80220-1239

JOIN LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

NOT FOR WOMEN ONLY!

Name(s) _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

ANNUAL DUES: Regular member..... \$60.00
(for Denver, State & Two residing at same address \$90.00
National) Sustaining member \$125.00
 Two sustaining members at same address \$185.00
 Student \$25.00

CONTRIBUTIONS: To LWV Denver \$ _____
 To Dues Assistance Fund \$ _____

Make check payable to LWV Denver. (Dues are not tax-deductible. Tax-deductible contributions may be made by separate check to LWVD Education Fund.)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____



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1980 Dahlia Street
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Periodical Postage
Paid in Denver



Presents Four Candidate Forums and one Ballot Issues Forum

Tuesday, October 10

7:00 p.m. School Board District 2 (SW Denver)

8:00 p.m. School Board District 4 (NE Denver, Incumbent: Rachele Espiritu)

Thursday, October 12

7:00 p.m. School Board District 3 (E Denver, Incumbent: Mike Johnson)

8:00 p.m. School Board At Large (Incumbent: Barbara O'Brien)

Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 p.m.

Ballot Issues (7 GO Bonds, Green roof initiative, Dept. of Environmental Health Charter Amendment)

Forums can be viewed live on Denver 8 TV. They can also be viewed on the *Channel 8 website* along with taped candidate introduction—www.denverdecides.org

Denver Decides: A Community Partnership for Accessible, Transparent Elections