



# The Boulder County Voter

1 November 2016

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<https://instagram.com/lwvbc>

## Fall Greetings!

It's time to renew your membership. Go online to our website and [renew](#)

There is also a form in the Voter if you'd like to renew by check and mail. Please consider becoming a sustaining member. When you pay your dues of \$60, we retain only \$10 of each membership at the local level. That's not much for all we plan to do! Your additional donation helps us accomplish our mission, goals and objectives at the county level. Thank you for renewing!

Important Upcoming Events:

- The Immigration Team has been diligently working on studying the rights of undocumented Immigrants. Please plan to attend one of their educational sessions on 15 November, Louisville Fire Department, Main St. or 28 November, Frasier Meadows, Boulder. See our [website](#) for more details.
- Please join us for the Holiday Wine and Cheese party at the beautiful and historic 1880 Firehouse and Art Gallery in downtown Longmont on Friday 2 December, 6 – 8 pm. Our goal is to use this opportunity to introduce new people to the League. Please plan to attend and bring someone with you who is new to our organization. Your guest is free! Register [online](#) or by mail with a check. Details on these events are on our [website](#).



Ruth Stemler, President,  
LWVBC

What an election season this has been! I think most of us are ready to wrap it up! We should all be proud of what LWVBC has accomplished this year. Our members who have been actively involved have my sincere appreciation. Your work has help make our democracy work for our full community. I believe we have helped develop more educated, informed voters. We have utilized social media, held voter registration drives, researched issues, hosted educational presentations, written letters to the editors, advocated for our positions, distributed printed materials, reached out to a more diverse audience and much, much more. We are influencing and building coalitions.

Hope to see you at our next events! Ruth



Remember to reload your grocery card. Every time you do, the League gets money !! Email [Louisa Young](#) for details.



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## **Bulbs are here !!**

Remember ordering bulbs last Spring?

Seems like a long time ago, and you probably put it out of your mind, but time has passed, and they are in.

If you haven't been contacted, and you ordered bulbs, please get in touch with Louisa Young (Louisa.Young@Colorado.EDU or 303-5444-6428) to pick them up or have them delivered.

Boulder County will be blooming next Spring!!!

### **Mark Your Calendars**

*8 November 2016:*

#### **GENERAL ELECTION**

Last day to Vote is November 8th  
Voter Service & Polling Centers open by 24 October and remain open through 8 November, except Sundays.

*15 November 2016*

#### **Community Conversation: Non-Citizen Rights**

6:30-8pm, Louisville Fire Dept, 1240 Main St, Louisville

*28 November 2016*

#### **Community Conversation: Non-Citizen Rights**

2:30-4pm, Frasier Meadows Manor, 350 Ponca Pl, Boulder

*2 December 2016*

#### **LWVBC Holiday Wine & Cheese Party**

6-8pm, Firehouse Art Center, 667 4<sup>th</sup> Av, Longmont

*16 December 2016*

#### **LWVCO Lobbyist Workshop**

9am-noon, LWVCO Office, 1410 Grant St, Denver

For details, contact [LWVCO](#)

*30 January 2017*

#### **State Legislative Conference**

8am-2:30pm, Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 1370 Grant St, Denver

For details, contact [LWVCO](#)

League of Women Voters of Boulder County  
Box 21274, Boulder CO 80308  
[www.lwvbc.org](http://www.lwvbc.org)

President: Ruth J. Stemler  
[president@lwvbc.org](mailto:president@lwvbc.org)

Membership: Liz Black  
[membership@lwvbc.org](mailto:membership@lwvbc.org)

Membership: 201 as of October 2016

Boulder County Voter  
10 issues per year  
Editor: Rionda Osman  
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## LWVBC Positions on Local Ballot Issues

From Susan Saunders

*Note: LWV can support or oppose ballot issues only if our members have established a Program Position directly relevant to the question before the voters. To arrive at such positions, members prioritize a public policy area, study it in depth, and identify the points around which members are in broad agreement. Positions are reconsidered annually and affirmed, revised or dropped.*

### For 2016:

**LWVBC is NEUTRAL** on Boulder County 1A; City of Boulder 2H and 2J; Lafayette 2D and 2E; Louisville 2A and 2B; and BVSD 3A.

**LWVBC OPPOSES** City of Boulder Question 302 based on our position against term limits.

**LWVBC SUPPORTS** the following:

**County Issues 1B and 1C** - based on our Natural Resources position covering open space, solid waste management, transportation and water

**County Issue 1D** - which attempts to mitigate effects of term limits already in place

**City of Boulder 2I** - based on our Government and Environmental Planning position and its principals of good planning

**Lafayette 2C** - based on our Natural Resources position covering transportation specifically supporting incentives to encourage use of alternative transportation

**Lafayette 2F** - based on our national principles that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government

**SVVSD 3A** - based on our School Policy position for Sites and Facilities supporting efficient use of district facilities and long-range planning for school construction

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## League Members in Action



### Taking Action:

### What Rights Do Undocumented Immigrants Have?

From Louisa Young

This question has been asked at Annual Meetings for the past few years, as members have asked the Social Policy/Immigration Team to provide information. Social Policy Team has been very busy with important issues, such as living/minimum wages, so a sub team was formed to do the research and provide updated information. League members and the general public will have the opportunity to learn the results of these efforts at two Community Conversations:

6:30-8:00 pm, Tuesday evening, November 15  
Louisville Fire Department, 1240 Main St, Louisville

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## Taking Action:

### What Rights Do Undocumented Immigrants Have? (continued)

2:30-4:00 pm, Monday afternoon, November 28  
Frasier Meadows Manor, 350 Ponca Pl, Boulder

Areas researched are employment rights, education, driving, voting, and public benefits. We uncovered some facts that may surprise you, and we tackled some commonly held myths. Please come and bring a friend.

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## Taking Action: Voter Services Report

From Jeanine Pow

The wild and crazy 2016 election year is drawing to a close and I, for one, can attest that it is none too soon. The VRD Team went above and beyond the call of duty with VRDs reaching a peak in September when we conducted 12 VRDs (e.g., at the Boulder Farmer's Market, Longmont Dental Aid, Superior Chili Fest, Boulder Pride, Longmont Head Start, and at four Boulder Valley School District high schools on National Voter Registration Day). When we learned about a Naturalization Ceremony being held that night at the Boulder Public Library, we put together voter registration packets and handed them out to 20 new citizens after the ceremony. In October, we conducted another five VRDs at senior living centers, the Longmont Farmer's Market and a Lafayette church.

The following dedicated VRD Team members made those 17 fall drives possible: Kay Bierbaum (2); Catherine Brown(2); Elizabeth Crowe (2); Jill Ertl (2); Lyla Hamilton; Catherine Harada (2); Diana Haskell (2); Lorrie Johnson (2); Jennifer Knievel (4); Peggy Leech (3); Pat Long (3); Jo Manternach; Rionda Osman; Jeanine Pow (9); Susan Saunders (6); Deborah Smith; Ruth Stemler (3); Deborah Vink; Gwen Wharton; and Judy White (2). (Please forgive me if I've overlooked anyone who volunteered).

Looking back, between January and October, 27 VRD Team members conducted a total of 33 drives. According to the Secretary of State, in 2016 Colorado has the highest number of registered voters in the nation! The LWVBC helped make that possible by registering 145 new voters and updating the voter records of another 121 citizens. We answered countless questions and handed out hundreds of League "blue cards", ink pens and ballot issue brochures. We had high visibility and contributed significantly to community conversations throughout the entire community. In a less contentious presidential election year we might have registered more voters but there were literally dozens of organizations out there registering new voters at many of the events where we were conducting VRDs.

As of 27 October 2016, the SOS reports receiving 572,550 ballots either through mail-in or in-person voting. We can only hope that all those who have registered actually vote. Please encourage your family and friends to consult [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org) if they have questions about a candidate or ballot issue. Ask them if they have voted and keep after them right through Election Day. Regardless of what the polls might indicate, no one can afford to sit out the November 8th General Election!

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## From LWCO: Legislative Conference

### Get up to speed on the 2017 legislative session!

When: January 30, 2017 @ 8:00 am – 2:30 pm

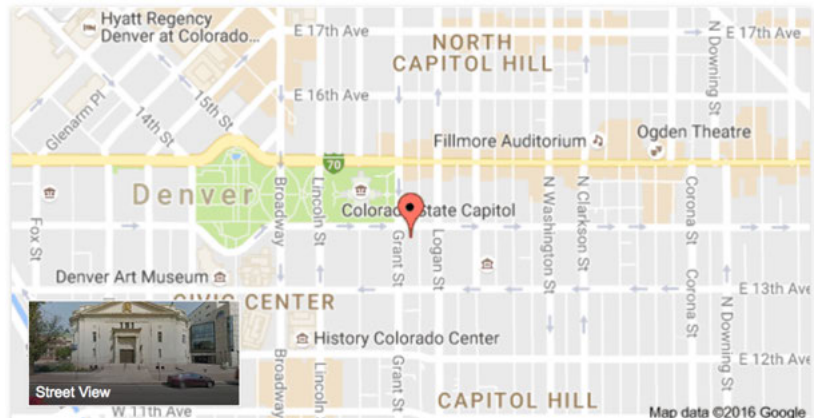
Where: Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
1370 Grant St  
Denver, CO 80203 USA

Cost: \$40.00

#### [Home Event](#)

Doors open at 8:00, with continental breakfast served 8-9:00.

Buffet lunch at noon.



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## From LWVUS:

### LWV Election Administration Litigation, Summer and Fall 2016

The League has been involved in several litigations this year. Wyelecia Harris, LWVUS Executive Director, has provided us with a summary of those actions.

#### *National*

#### **League of Women Voters v. Newby**

LWVUS and the Kansas, Alabama and Georgia Leagues sued the Executive Director of the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) because he illegally approved requests from those states to require documentary proof of citizenship (DPC) in order to register to vote using the national mail voter application form. He acted on his own without approval from the EAC and contrary to the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA).

A preliminary injunction was issued by the U.S. Court of Appeals for D.C. stating that the League was likely to succeed on the merits and blocking implementation of the requirement. The district court in the case, which retains jurisdiction, held a hearing on the merits in early October. While no final ruling is expected soon, thus leaving the injunction in place, a decision by the district court before the election is a possibility.

The case is nationally important because a decision in the League's favor would block any state from requiring documentary proof of citizenship when a citizen uses the national mail voter registration form.

(In previous litigation, the LWVUS and LWVKS were party intervenors in **Kobach v. EAC**, where the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit upheld the EAC in blocking the documentary proof of citizenship requirement for the national mail voter registration form under the NVRA.)

#### *Kansas*

The preliminary injunction discussed above blocks implementation by Kansas of its DPC requirement for the national mail voter registration application form.

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## From LWVUS:

### LWV Election Administration Litigation, Summer and Fall 2016 (continued)

However, Kansas also requires DPC in the “motor voter” process, that is, when citizens apply to register to vote when they get or renew a driver’s license. In **Fish v. Kobach**, in which the Kansas League was a party, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit invalidated that requirement.

#### *Florida*

The LWVUS and LWV Florida sued Florida for refusing to keep voter registration open to citizens impacted by Hurricane Matthew. The League argued that the closing of government offices and the evacuation orders, while necessary for public safety, meant that voter registration was closed more than 30 days before the election, which violates the NVRA. Citing the League’s argument, the U.S. district court ordered registration to remain to make up for the lost days in a suit brought by the Democratic Party. There is now a question of processing the voter registrations that is not yet resolved.

Leagues across Florida rushed to schedule additional voter registration drives to make up for the time lost by the storm.

(Note: North Carolina voter registration was also extended in court action. One county in Georgia was ordered to keep registration open using the LWV’s NVRA theory in a case brought by another civil rights group.)

#### *Ohio*

Ohio illegally purged thousands of voters because they had not voted recently, which is prohibited by the NVRA. The LWV Ohio and the LWVUS joined an amicus brief before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit as that court ruled that the purge did violate the NVRA. However, the case was remanded to district court to fashion a remedy and negotiations between the parties have broken down as Ohio has refused to restore the voter registrations for all those who were purged. The League and partners set up a massive media campaign as well as phone banks to call likely-affected voters to encourage them to re-register in time to participate in this election. Still pending.

#### *North Carolina*

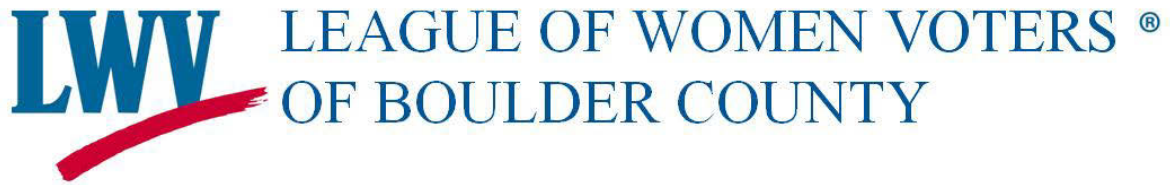
The LWV North Carolina challenged restrictions on early voting and other administrative reforms passed by the legislature. The case was consolidated with the challenge to NC’s restrictive voter ID law. Both suits pointed to the discriminatory effects on African-American voters caused by the restrictions. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit ruled that all the restrictions violated the law, meaning the restrictions will not be in place for this election. Remanded to the district court, the case is not fully resolved as the controversy over a remedy continues.

(Note: Wisconsin’s voter ID requirement was blocked in federal court but the remedy question remains unresolved. The LWVWI had earlier challenged the ID requirement in state court.)

#### *Wisconsin*

The LWV Wisconsin put the state on notice that a new requirement for the municipality to be correctly entered on an absentee ballot envelope by the voter is unnecessary and will block citizens from exercising their right to vote. Without a quick resolution, the LWVWI promised suit. The Wisconsin Election Commission backed off.

(Note: Florida’s requirements regarding unneeded information on an absentee ballot envelope have been blocked by a preliminary injunction in federal court. Ohio’s unnecessary absentee ballot requirements were blocked in federal court.)



27 October, 2016

Dear Members,

It's that time of year again – time to renew your League membership! Thank you for past support and for renewing today so we can continue to have the impact you've come to expect from the League!

Our League was very active in 2015, engaging communities in promoting positive solutions to public policy issues, and devoting extra hours to ensure our local League finds a path to the future. Innovations worth highlighting from 2015-16 included:

- **Community Conversations that educate our members and the public and market the mission and work of the League**
- **Youth engagement** on college and high school campuses and two great interns
- Improved outreach through **social media** as evidenced by a recent post reaching 676 Facebook subscribers
- More **diversified funding** sources, with a grant received from the Community Foundation of Boulder County for the first time ever
- Over 16 **voter registration** drives at community events and presence on Vote411

We need your renewed membership now to ensure that we can accomplish our ambitious schedule of activities in the coming year. For the 2016-17 League year, our basic individual annual dues are set at \$60. **I am hoping, however, that you—and as many of our members that can—will increase your membership level to the sustaining level, to provide much needed additional funding for our work in 2016.** Already we have cosponsored three candidate forums with nonprofits representing the Latino community and welcomed Broomfield residents who joined with us as they engage their neighbors in exploring issues of local interest. Following bylaws changes at the Kickoff meeting, an application for 501(c)(3) tax status has been submitted. If approval is granted by the IRS, dues as well as donors' gifts will be tax deductible, retroactive to the date of the application. In the year ahead we will continue our education and advocacy efforts while developing a plan for part-time administrative staff and considering investing in membership management software to better serve members' needs.

In this time of heightened partisanship, gridlock between policy makers and increased public frustration, there has never been a more urgent need for the reasoned, factual and civil voice the League of Women Voters brings to our community. As a member, you are a crucial part of our hands-on work to safeguard democracy and create lasting change. This week while I was on the bus, another passenger talked about how hard it was to read the blue book explanation of ballot issues. I was so proud of the League's reputation when a different bus rider, a female college student, told him that she encourages her friends to read the League's pamphlet on the issues. As she stated, it is easy to read for those uncomfortable with legalese.

To those of you who have paid and to life members who owe nothing, we thank you for your continued commitment to the League of Women Voters. We welcome feedback from you on what we're doing well and how we might improve. We are counting on the rest of you to complete the renewal form on the back of this page. **Fill it out today and mail it with a check to the address below, or renew online at [lwwbc.org](http://lwwbc.org).**

Sincerely,

**Liz Black, Membership Director**  
**LWV of Boulder County**  
**PO Box 21274**  
**Boulder, Colorado 80308-4274**



### Membership Renewal Form

- I am paying \$60 for a basic individual membership
- I am paying \$120 for a sustaining individual membership
- I am a life member (50 years or more) owing no dues but donating \_\_\_\_\_
- Payment of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. I'll pay the rest in three monthly installments
- We are paying \$90 for a household basic membership
- We are paying \$200 for a sustaining household membership
- I am paying \$30 as I am in a household with a life member
- I renewed already or joined recently so I owe no dues for 2016-17 at this time.

The most essential information for us is your name and birth year. List other information only if it has changed recently. We aim to keep our records accurate and up-to-date.

Circle any information that you wish to be left out of your entry(ies) in the member directory.

Primary Name \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Birth year \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Years in LWV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

For households only, complete the first line below and the rest if we do not already have it.

Additional Name \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Birth year \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Years in LWV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

For our organization to be more responsive to member views, to what public policy issues, in your opinion, ought the league to give its highest priority attention?

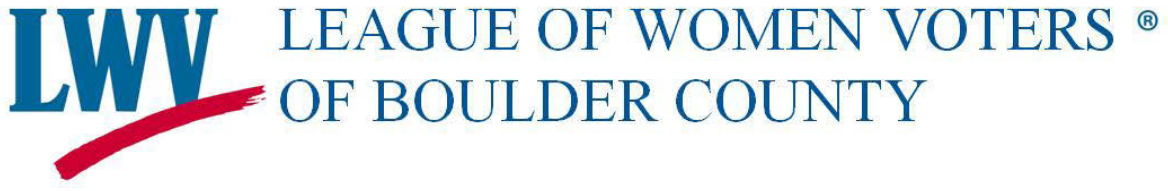
Locally \_\_\_\_\_ In Colorado \_\_\_\_\_ Nationally \_\_\_\_\_

So that we can grow as an organization and better reflect the diversity of individuals in our region, tell us someone you know who could benefit from and be an asset to the LWVBC. We will follow up with these leads and you can also personally invite them to any of our events.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

- The LWVBC has not met my needs and I do not intend to renew. Contact me for a fuller explanation. Best way to reach me is \_\_\_\_\_





## LWVBC Wine and Cheese Party

Friday, 2 December 2016  
6:00 – 8:00 pm

Firehouse Art Center  
667 4th Avenue, Longmont  
(carpooling encouraged)

Please plan to attend our wine and cheese party at the historic Firehouse Art Center in Longmont. Built in 1880 as a firehouse, this building is now an art gallery. We would like to let other people know what the League is and what we are doing, so we are encouraging you to bring a guest by making their admission free! This is a great opportunity to bring a friend, have some fun, and potentially gain some new members.

Sponsorships are also welcome. Bring a bottle of wine to share, or contribute toward food, wine, and venue costs. We are planning a raffle, too, so if you have something wonderful to raffle off, please contact [Peggy Leech](#).

Make your reservation now for our Holiday Wine & Cheese Party. Mail the registration form below (also available on-line at [www.lwvbc.org](http://www.lwvbc.org)), to be received by Monday, November 28, 2016. You can also register yourself and your guest on-line.

Registration Form  
LWV of Boulder County  
Wine & Cheese Party

When: Friday, 2 December 2016, 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
Where: Firehouse Art Center, Longmont  
Cost: \$27.00 for LWVBC members. Non-members are no charge!  
Deadline: **Monday, 28 November 2016**

Please mail this form and check payable to LWVBC to Peggy Leech, 209 S. Lincoln Ave., Louisville, CO 80027.

Number of LWVBC members \_\_\_\_\_ X \$27.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

(No Charge—one guest per member)

Sponsorship (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

## November 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	10

## December 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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

## LWVBC Calendar

8 November 2016: GENERAL ELECTION

15 November 2016: Community Conversation: Non-Citizen Rights,  
Louisville

28 November 2016: Community Conversation: Non-Citizen Rights, Boulder

2 December 2016: LWVBC Holiday Party, Longmont

16 December 2016: LWVCO Lobbyist Workshop, Denver

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