



# The Boulder County Voter

1 May 2017

*This issue has been corrected to include information about the plans for a memorial service honoring Beverly Sabin and to report the correct date for the Voter Registration Drive at the LatinxFest in Longmont on Sunday, 25 June 2017.*

## Spring Greetings to All

As I write this letter I am preparing for the Annual Meeting at Nissi's on May 6<sup>th</sup>. I hope you will plan to attend. Sign up on our website today or contact Peggy Leech to send us a check.



Ruth Stemler, President, LWVBC

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Community Connections Award

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Voting Methods  
Campaign Finance Reform

**Update: Club Express**



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



<https://instagram.com/lwvbc>

Please go to our new website and explore what is there.

Deborah Hayes, Rionda Osman, Liz Black, and Debby Vink

have worked hard to be sure it remains a valuable source of information for you and our community. Use your password and user name to access the secure membership section of the website and examine your profile. Update and revise as you see fit. Once we get accustomed to it (and that includes me), it will be a valuable tool. And if you have questions we will assist.

Seventeen of us from LWVBC are getting ready for the LWVCO convention in Ft. Collins on May 20 and 21<sup>st</sup>. Our Campaign Finance Reform and Voting Methods Teams have an integral role in this convention. At the convention LWVBC will be honored with the 2017 Community Connections Award for a large League. This award is being given to our League as a result of our work on *Making Democracy Work for All!* Mary Ann Wilner will be honored with a 2017 Individual Achievement Award for her work and the work of the Social Policy Team on Living Wage for City of Boulder employees. Congratulations to all. We will have an LWVBC coffee on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Meadows library in Boulder to share what we learned.

Please check out the calendar in this newsletter. Your board has many more events planned for the summer. Attend, socialize and learn with the community and other League members. Can you volunteer for a VRD? Attend a film on voting security in Boulder? Join us for an educational coffee? Participate in a fundraising event?

And last but not least, please help us raise money with Bulb Sales and Duck Race tickets. Much of what we want to accomplish uses precious financial and human resources.

Hope to see you soon,  
Ruth



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## Updates from the Events Team

From Peggy Leech

We held two events in April. The first was Drinks & Dialogue, at the Gondolier in Boulder. The topic was “Voter Suppression: Fact or Fiction?”, and our speaker was Suzanne Staiert, Colorado Deputy Secretary of State. The second event was “More Choices for Voters, Part 3: What would Proportional Representation look like in Colorado?” This event was held at the Lafayette Public Library, and we had three speakers on this topic.

In May, the Annual Meeting will be held on 6 May (see reminder elsewhere in the Voter). The deadline for registrations to be received is 2 May. To register online, you will need to log in as a member on the LWVBC website, and then complete your registration.

Also in May, we will have our third and final screening of the film “I Voted?” on 11 May 2017, at Elevations Credit Union, at 6 pm (see our website). The filmmaker, Jason Grant Smith, will join us for a virtual Q&A after the film.

On 3 June 2017, 10:30 am, we will have a report from our state convention delegates at Meadows Public Library in Boulder. Come join us to hear the latest. Refreshments will be served.

We are now beginning to plan for the upcoming League year, and we welcome any suggestions for hot topics for our Community Conversation and Drinks & Dialogue events.

Members of the team are: Shiquita Yarbrough, Marion Read, Ruth Stemler, and Peggy Leech. We have also had assistance at events from Diana Barney, Liz Nick, and Carla Bigum. Kay Forsythe and Mickey Greenberg have handled arrangements for any meetings at Frasier. If anyone else is interested in helping with this team, please contact [Peggy Leech](mailto:Peggy.Leech@lwvbc.org). Stay tuned to our website for more information.

## Mark Your Calendars !

**May, 2017**

Thursday <b>4</b>	<b>Campaign Finance Reform Team Meeting</b> Contact our CFR Team Leader at <a href="mailto:Teams@LWVBC.org">Teams@LWVBC.org</a> for more information. 6:15 PM <a href="#">More Info</a>
Saturday <b>6</b>	<b>Annual Meeting</b> Nissl's in Lafayette 9:00 AM <a href="#">Less Info</a> Breakfast buffet, speakers on Boulder County Latino History Project, and business meeting —election of officers and directors; consideration of proposed 2017–2018 budget, program, and bylaws changes; member recognition.
Monday <b>8</b>	<b>Money In Politics: Convention Preview</b> Assembly Room, Frasier Meadows 2:30 PM <a href="#">Less Info</a> Dress rehearsal before the State Convention: the Campaign Finance Reform Team will preview their Money in Politics presentation.
Thursday <b>11</b>	<b>"I Voted" Film Screening And Discussion</b> Elevations Credit Union 6:00 PM <a href="#">Less Info</a> "I Voted?" is a nonpartisan documentary which raises questions about our voting processes around the country. It premiered at the Tribeca film festival in 2016. FREE admission.
Thursday <b>18</b>	<b>LWVBC Board Meeting</b> Contact president 6:15 PM
Sunday <b>21</b>	<b>Social Policy Team Meeting</b> Contact team leader 1:30 PM

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

Membership: 214 as of April 2017  
President: Ruth J. Stemler  
[president@lwvbc.org](mailto:president@lwvbc.org)  
Membership: Liz Black  
[membershipteam@lwvbc.org](mailto:membershipteam@lwvbc.org)  
Boulder County Voter  
10 issues per year  
Editor: Rionda Osman  
[editor@lwvbc.org](mailto:editor@lwvbc.org)

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## **Remembering Two of Our Life Members**

From Liz Black

This last month there were not one but two life members who passed away.

### **Mary Leonard**

Mary Leonard, a longtime member of the League, passed away on Friday, 21 April 2017. Mary grew up in Minneapolis, met David, her husband of 60 years, at Iowa State University, and has been involved with the League for almost as long. The photo shows three generations of Leonard women on the occasion when Mary was presented with her Life Membership certificate in 2015. Mary's friends at her church speak about her passion for social justice issues: women's issues, domestic violence, health care for all, including behavioral health, and more. Daughter Julie tells us that in the different communities in which her family lived, Mary accepted many different leadership roles in her leagues. When Mary was newsletter editor, Julie recalls that the whole family would walk around the dining table, collating the pages of each issue. Shirley Jin remarked that, quite recently, Mary contributed an edit to the Campaign Finance Reform team's efforts. Although Mary's lungs' function has been compromised for a long time, she accepted and ignored her own suffering as much as possible, and took delight in often reaching out to her friends with gestures of kindness. She will be missed by many of us both in and out of the league.



Mary Leonard (left) with daughter Julie and granddaughter Rose at the celebration of Mary's achievement of Life Membership.

A Service of Remembrance will be held at

Boulder Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
1241 Ceres Drive, Lafayette, Colorado  
Sunday, 7 May at 3:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be made to:

- the Boulder Valley UU Fellowship Building Fund  
(checks made out to BVUUF with "Mary Leonard memorial gift" in the memo line can be sent to 1241 Ceres Drive, Lafayette, CO)

or

- the League of Women Voters of Boulder County ([LWVBC.org](http://LWVBC.org))

Cards for Dave and the family may be sent to:

1440 Wildwood Lane  
Boulder CO 80305

Mary's husband, Dave, reports he already has a freezer filled with meals. If you'd like to know how you can support Dave in the future, please email Marky Lloyd at [mllloyd@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:mllloyd@georgiasouthern.edu).

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## **Remembering Two of Our Life Members (continued)**

### **Beverly Sabin**

Beverly Sabin died Sunday, 16 April 2017. She was one of the league members living in the Frasier community. A memorial service for Beverly is scheduled for:

1:00 pm, Saturday, 6 May  
Chapel, Frasier Meadows

Beverly Sabin joined the league in 1959 in Deerfield, IL, where she immediately took on a term as Voter Service chair. Beverly was then active in local leagues in Broomfield Hills, MI (1960's), Baton Rouge, LA (1970-75), and Montrose, CO, prior to moving to Boulder County in 2002. In Baton Rouge Bev found herself part of an influx of Northerners who brought a different perspective while working to support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and to improve miserable conditions in Louisiana's prisons.

Beverly believed that the league made a difference by helping women become more active politically and noted that social and political changes are reflected in changes in fashion, i.e., the acceptance of pants as business attire for women. Bev's main interests and area for activism have been schools and libraries, not surprising since she had her Master's degree in Library Science.

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## **Don't Miss the 2017 LWVBC Annual Meeting !**

Plan to attend the LWVBC Annual Meeting on Saturday, 6 May 2017. We will begin the day with a breakfast buffet (cost: \$25/person), followed by our program.

Our two speakers will talk about the Boulder County Latino History Project: the project itself and the ongoing educational efforts that have followed. Justine Vigil-Tapia was a member of the Boulder County Latino History Project Advisory Committee. Marjorie McIntosh wrote the two books that describe what the project learned: *Latinos of Boulder County, Colorado, 1900-1980*.

And, of course, we will attend to business, which includes election of officers, approval of the budget, approval of bylaws changes, and adoption of the 2017-2018 program.

New this year: a "photo booth". We will take photos of our members, for the new membership directory, which is a part of our new Club Express membership management software.

9:00 – 11:30 am Saturday, 6 May 2017  
Nissi's  
2675 North Park Drive, Lafayette  
(near 95th & Arapahoe)

To register online, click the [Events Calendar](#) to select the Annual Meeting. Make your reservation now for our annual meeting. It is too late to mail the registration form, so please register on our website:

<http://www.lwvbc.org/>. **All registrations must be received by Tuesday, 2 May 2017.** To register online, you will need to log in as a member and then complete your registration. If you wish to attend and cannot register online, please call or send an email to Peggy Leech (303-666-4720, [pegleech@aol.com](mailto:pegleech@aol.com)).

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## Voter Registration Drives

### The easiest volunteer opportunity in the League!

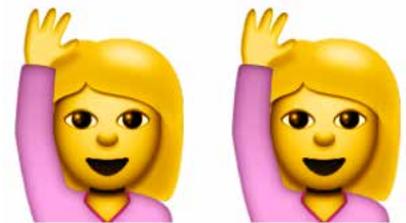
Two volunteers are needed for each time slot noted below.

Don't be shy! You will be working with an experienced voter registrar at all times.  
Please contact Susan Saunders, [okbeeb@gmail.com](mailto:okbeeb@gmail.com), to sign up and learn the details.



#### Cinco de Mayo Longmont Saturday, 5/6/17

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (including booth set up)  
12:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
2:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
5:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. (including break down)



#### Boulder Farmers Market Saturdays, 5/20\*, 7/8, 9/9

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (including help with booth set-up)  
7:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
9:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
12:00 to 2:15 p.m. (including help with booth break down)



*\* Please volunteer if you are not going to State Convention, otherwise we have to cancel the 5/20 opportunity.*

#### Longmont Farmers Market Saturdays, 6/10, 8/26, 10/7

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (including help with booth set up)  
7:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
9:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.



#### LatinxFest Longmont Sunday, 6/25/17

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (including booth set up)  
12:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
2:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
5:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. (including break down)





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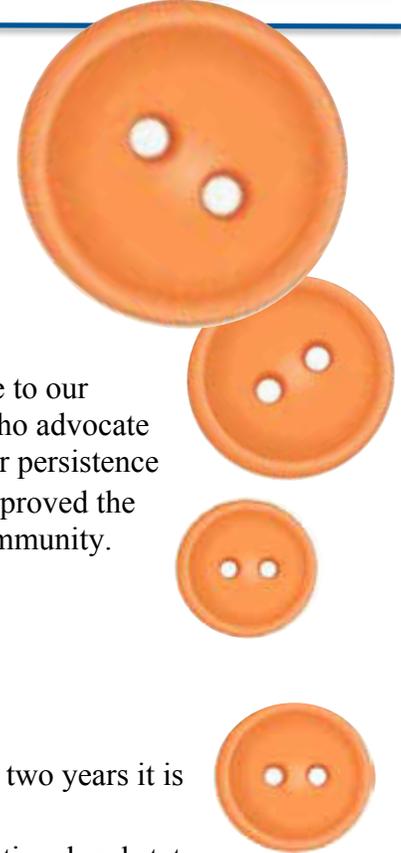
## **We're Popping Our Buttons !**

### **Congratulations to Mary Ann Wilner**

Mary Ann Wilner has been named co-winner of the LWVCO Individual Achievement Award for 2017 for her work on Living Wage. Mary Ann led the Social Policy Team, our League, and our community in a successful campaign to bring Living Wage to city of Boulder employees, and continues to lead a promising effort to bring Living Wage to employees of Boulder County and the rest of its municipalities.

Her leadership has increased our League's visibility and attracted new people to our League and the Social Policy Team. It has energized community members who advocate fair wages and, in particular, an adequate Living Wage. Our expertise and our persistence on this issue have become widely known. Most importantly, her work has improved the working and personal lives of countless city of Boulder employees in our community.

The award will be made on 20 May at the State League convention.



### **LWVBC Wins the LWVCO Community Connections Award for 2017**

LWVBC won the LWVCO Community Connections Award for 2017. Every two years it is given to one large League and one small League.

The award was given for our work on Making Democracy Work for All, a national and state initiative of LWV.

During the 2016 election season LWVBC worked tirelessly on voter registration drives, candidate forums, ballot issue presentations, VOTE 411 and advocacy for Amendments 69 (Colorado Care) and Amendment 70 (minimum wage). For the first time in our history, we collaborated on three forums from the Latino perspective.

After the election LWVBC worked on innovative educational events such as Community Conversations and Drinks and Dialogue. LWVBC Issue Teams such as Social Policy, Campaign Finance Reform and Voting Methods have worked to educate our community and take action on important issues. LWVBC is reaching new audiences through the use of social media, a Speaker's Bureau, KGNU radio program, new website and membership management software. LWVBC recruited and mentored two Generation X board members from under-represented communities which has led to new innovations. LWVBC is collaborating with many organizations to reach the broader community.

The award will be presented on 20 May at the State convention.



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





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## FUNDRAISERS UNDERWAY

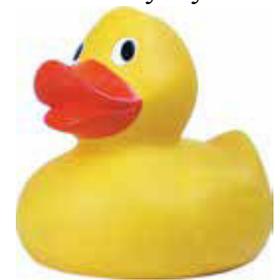
From Louisa Young



There are multiple opportunities coming your way to help the League raise money for its important work.

Bulbs are for sale again. Beautiful, high quality bulbs from Holland are available for order as we have done for the last few years. Call or email Lois (303-499-2689) ([lflinsky@hotmail.com](mailto:lflinsky@hotmail.com)) or Louisa (303-444-4628) ([Louisa.Young@Colorado.EDU](mailto:Louisa.Young@Colorado.EDU)). Order and pay for them now; they will be delivered in the Fall; plant them in the Fall and you can enjoy their beauty a year from now. Last year we made over \$1000 for the League with this fundraiser. The deadline for orders is 1 June.

Duck Race tickets are available. Contact Louisa (303-444-4628; [Louisa.Young@Colorado.EDU](mailto:Louisa.Young@Colorado.EDU)) or Ruth (303-916-1519; [rjstemler@gmail.com](mailto:rjstemler@gmail.com)) to buy tickets at \$5 each. Last



year we netted \$600 on this fun activity. The race is part of the Longmont Rhythm on the River 7 & 8 July festival, and it's a lot of fun. Cash prizes are awarded.

Both bulb order forms and Duck Race tickets will be available at the Annual Meeting.

Also stay tuned for a celebration of our 501(c)(3) status coming the evening of June 15. Details are still being arranged, but expect it to be a not-to-be-missed event.

## League Members in Action



### Taking Action: Voting Methods: Caucuses, Presentations, and a Bill – Oh, My !

From Celeste Landry

Once upon a time an active group of Boulder County Leaguers decided to study voting methods. They discovered that we don't have to be limited to just plurality voting when there are more than two candidates. The team was so excited by the possibilities that, when encouraged to create a position with which the state LWV might concur, they stepped up to the challenge.

The month of May brings possible concurrence at the state convention - where LWVBC will hold two caucus sessions entitled "Better Voting Methods for Better Results." For convention delegates and any other interested parties, we're sharing on our [Voting Methods webpage](#): a "Voting Methods 101" video and a detailed study packet. (Along the

*continued*

### Try A New Voting Method !

Next time you want to make a group decision and there are more than two choices, consider trying a new voting method. Try out approval and score voting with [voteupapp.com](http://voteupapp.com).

FairVote plans to release a ranked-choice voting app soon, and we'll keep you posted.

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## **Taking Action: Voting Methods: Caucuses, Presentations, and a Bill –Oh, My ! (continued)**

way, LWVBC also acquired a new web hosting service so thank you, Deborah Hayes, for transitioning the Voting Methods page to the new site!) We've also just concluded a 3-part series of presentations on ranked-choice voting, approval voting and proportional representation, and we even spoke at the Libertarian Convention.

New in April was Colorado House Bill 1281 to allow approval voting in local, non-partisan elections. As of press deadline it had passed its first committee and was headed to the House Appropriations Committee. We'll definitely have more news to report in the next Voter.

We are working hard to communicate with members of other local Leagues about the importance of concurrence with our new voting methods position. If you know folks in other Leagues, please talk to them about our position, and if they have questions we will be happy to talk further with them. Thank you!



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## **Taking Action: Money in Politics**

From Rionda Osman

The Campaign Finance Reform Team has been asked to make a presentation at the LWVCO State Convention in Fort Collins (2:00 pm Saturday, 20 May 2017). We will also be talking to convention-goers in the caucuses on Saturday evening. Stop in !

### **Come to Our Dress Rehearsal**

*Let's Talk about Money in Politics*

*When:* 2:30 - 4:00 pm, Monday, 8 May 2017

*Where:* Assembly Room, Frasier Meadows

350 Ponca Place

Boulder, CO 80303

303.499.4888

[Frasier Meadows](#)



As part of the LWVCO campaign to Make Democracy Work for All, the LWVBC Campaign Finance Reform Team has been included in the program of the LWVCO State Convention. We will encourage other Leagues in Colorado to talk about Money in Politics with their communities and to advocate for common sense campaign finance reform and publicly financed campaigns.

We have tools for the Leagues to use -- a short video, FAQs about campaign finance reform and publicly financed campaigns, and resource lists.

We'll be introducing those tools to the leagues at the convention in Fort Collins during the program and at the caucuses.

Come to our dress rehearsal. We appreciate the opportunity to hear questions and suggestions to improve our presentation.



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## Update: Club Express

From Rionda Osman

The new membership management software, Club Express, is up and running. We are all still learning how to use these new tools. Deborah Hayes, Liz Black, and Debby Vink have been working hard to transfer our information from spreadsheets and our former website. Most items have been transferred, and we continue to work to make them accessible.

The most publicly prominent part of this new system is the website. If you haven't visited yet, click here: [www.lwvbc.org](http://www.lwvbc.org).

**Passwords:** You must have a password to log in to the Member side of the website. Club Express has sent email invitations with instructions. If you cannot locate your invitation or if you don't have your password anymore, contact Deborah Hayes or Rionda Osman at [webmaster@lwvbc.org](mailto:webmaster@lwvbc.org).

## Logging In

One feature that will take some getting used to is that we have to log in to access all of the functions. Other organizations that use this software are much more guarded about their information. LWVBC, however, wants the public to see and read most of the items on our site. So, when you visit, you see the public toolbar which gives you access to many things.



As a member, you have access, on the Member Toolbar, to information about LWVBC that the public does not.



We have not explored everything that Club Express might offer, but, at the present, when you are logged in, you can see the Membership Directory, the Document Library, and Photo Albums from the Member Info Pulldown Menu. As time goes on, we'll have more documents and more photos. Eventually, we may have Forums and Blogs as well.

When you are logged in, you can change your contact information and update your profile. On the Member Profile page, you can update information, see financial transactions, and download the User Manual.

When you are logged in, your registration for Events and payments for dues and donations are streamlined.

Check back often – we will be adding items and features and making our information more useful. We welcome suggestions.



Member Info Pulldown Menu

# LWVBC Calendar

May 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

June 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

May, 2017	
Thursday <b>4</b>	<b>Campaign Finance Reform Team Meeting</b> Contact our CFR Team Leader at Teams@LWVBC.org for more information. 6:15 PM <a href="#">More Info</a>
Saturday <b>6</b>	<b>Annual Meeting</b> Nash's in Lafayette 9:00 AM <a href="#">Less Info</a>  Breakfast buffet, speakers on Boulder County Latino History Project, and business meeting --election of officers and directors; consideration of proposed 2017-2018 budget, program, and bylaws changes; member recognition.
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