

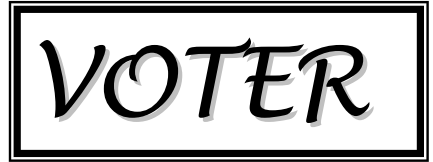


April 2018

Membership: 40

[www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org](http://www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org)

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®**  
*Serving Montrose and Delta Counties*



Follow us on **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/VoteMontrose>

**SOMETHING FRESH TO CONSIDER IN OUR SERIES ON  
ELECTIONS AND VOTING**

**“EQUALITY FOR WASHINGTON, D.C. -  
FIXING THE HOLE IN OUR DEMOCRACY”**



**Thursday, April 5 at 12:30**  
**Montrose Library Community Room**  
**Bring a Friend---or two!**

**Tressa Guynes, Montrose County Clerk and Recorder, will present information on the  
June 26 primary election too!**

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## **LOCAL LEAGUE NEWS**

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF MARCH 13**

Though the number of attendees was small, the meeting was very productive because the nine really stepped up with meaningful input and volunteerism to turn the wheels of our organization.

Regarding leadership for next year, Nancy Ball, Caroline Evans and Barb Krebs will personally call members in order to **fill the jobs of treasurer and spokesperson/coordinator**. Nancy has agreed to remain as *Voter* newsletter editor, Jan Edwards as secretary, Tanya Ishikawa as our webmaster and Facebook manager, and Gretchen as LWVCO liaison. As always, **a vote on officers---and a budget--- will be held at the annual meeting.**

Speaking of which, thanks to Barb, our annual meeting will be held at Vista Charter School on May 10 at 11:45 am.

Committees for important upcoming projects were established as follows:

**EZ Grant Committee:** Gretchen Nicholoff, Caroline Evans, Robin Flom, Suze Gingery and Paul Janzen. The mission of this group is to engage with eligible 18-35 year old residents of our communities, encouraging them to register to vote, to educate themselves about the candidates and issues, and to vote in our June primaries and the November general elections. Our work couldn't come at a better time what with the courageous willpower and determination currently demonstrated by high school students across the nation.

**Voter Service Committee:** Barb Krebs and Jan Edwards. With the passage of Props. 107 and 108, there are two elections on the horizon as noted above, so this committee will be quite busy with Vote411.org, candidate forums, ballot issues forums, voter registration, etc. Needless to say, Barb and Jan will need help from League members, so please consider assisting them, especially come late summer.

**Fundraising** was also a topic of discussion as funding will be needed for ballot issues pamphlets and LWVCO events such as Council and League Day. Barb and Nancy will work on this, and they need suggestions as to the names of local businesses and organizations to which to appeal.

We have been asked by D.M.E.A. to host their candidate forums for board seats on May 15 and 17, and Tanya Ishikawa has agreed to act as moderator.

A hearty thank-you to all who attended. For those of you who were unable to be at the meeting, this year your assistance is needed more than ever due to two elections and the LWVCO EZ Grant award, so please do consider volunteering in some way!

## **PACKET RECEIVED FROM THE LWV OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**



A surprise package found in our post office box has resulted in an interesting topic for our April program! In the box was all that was needed for a presentation, including an introductory letter explaining the project of self-determination, statehood and voting rights, along with support from the LWVUS, a PowerPoint presentation, and a petition to be signed by supporters.

The LWV has supported self-determination for Washington, D.C. since 1938, and the delegates to the LWVUS Biennial Convention in 2016 voted overwhelmingly to support statehood for our nation's capitol.

With the League's motto of "Making Democracy Work" and our local League's focus this past year on all things election and voting, this topic seems to be a perfect way to end our 2017-2018 community programming.

### **What can state and local Leagues do to help? Lots of options for little effort.**

- ▶ Include a box in every newsletter "We support statehood for DC residents."
- ▶ Appoint a liaison to the DC League to get updates.
- ▶ Like our Tweets—respond to them. Like our Facebook postings.
- ▶ Post one of our samples on your Facebook page.
- ▶ Hold a community program and get supporters of our cause to sign the petition provided.

**Request from the DC League: Please help us educate your representatives so they will understand the need to give DC the same rights the people of your state have.**

- Contact members of Congress asking them to support the New Columbia Admission Act

**Keys to Statehood Movement: Educate - Organize – Act and Believe in What's Possible!**

## **EZ Grant Committee**

With such tremendous momentum under way because of determined and motivated students across our nation (see below), our outreach to Millennials (18-35) grant from LWVCO could not have come at a more opportune time. The committee (see Page 2) will be needing volunteers to help with various voter registration events that will take place in the coming months prior to the June 26 primary and up through the November 6 elections.

These efforts will go a long way toward our "Making Democracy Work---for All" motto!

Please contact one of the committee members if you are able to assist in any way---ideas, publicity, being on hand at a registration event, attending meetings hosting local youths and/or young businesspeople, working with high school officials in Ridgway, Montrose, Olathe, Delta and other cities in Delta County, and C.M.U., working with young women's clubs, through the Chamber of Commerce, etc. and whatever...

LWVUS encourages all Leagues to continue to support and provide voter registration assistance to this incredible student-led grassroots movement.

### **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF COLORADO and Other Leagues Across the Country**

#### **DEMOCRACY IN ACTION!**



Tolga Akmen, AFP/Getty



Students in Phoenix, AZ

On March 24, the date of #MarchforOurLives across the country, the League of Women Voters marched with students, parents and concerned Americans in Washington D.C., and other cities across our nation, to urge Congress to enact common-sense solutions to the gun violence plaguing our nation so that their lives and safety become a priority and hopefully to finally put an end to the epidemic of mass school shootings.

Leagues also set up voter registration tables to ensure those speaking out are heard at the ballot box this year. Students in Arizona (see above) demonstrate the future!

### **Educate, Advocate, Impact!**

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE U.S.

### Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.



Credit: Vox

Yesterday (March 19), in a victory for Pennsylvania voters, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to block the recently redrawn Pennsylvania congressional district from moving forward. This is a huge victory for Pennsylvanians. Moving forward, the votes of Pennsylvanians will not be diluted by the unconstitutional extreme partisan gerrymandering of its congressional districts. In the 2018 election, voters will be voting under new, fairer maps.

Yesterday's decision was also a huge victory for the **League of Women Voters. The League in Pennsylvania initiated this lawsuit in the summer of 2017** because voters deserve the right for their voices to be heard regardless of party affiliation or address. This victory is an important first step toward slaying the gerrymander.

This success is just one of the many steps that are being taken in Pennsylvania and in other states across the country in our work to reform redistricting. The League will continue to fight for fair maps by passing legislation and supporting citizen reforms to implement an independent redistricting process.

Sincerely,

Chris Carson  
President, LWWUS

**Update:** Unfortunately, 12 Pennsylvania Republicans have introduced legislation to impeach four of the state Supreme Court justices who struck down the GOP's congressional gerrymander. Republican leaders in the state legislature are now considering whether to support this push for impeachment. Due to their gerrymandered legislative maps, Republicans hold just enough seats in both branches of the state legislature--including the required two thirds majority in the state senate--to impeach the justices if they all support it. Republicans hold the bare minimum two-thirds majority in the state Senate to remove the justices, so it would only take a single Republican senator to block an impeachment effort.

Looks as though the PA League may have more legal work ahead!

## **Contact info for the Colorado U.S. Congressional Delegation**

Sen. Cory Gardner | 303-391-5777 <https://www.gardner.senate.gov/contact-cory/email-cory>

Sen. Michael Bennet | 303-455-7600 / 866-455-9866 <https://www.bennet.senate.gov/?p=contact>

Rep. Diana DeGette (CO District 1) | 303-844-4988 <https://degette.house.gov/contact/send-me-an-email/email-me>

Rep. Jared Polis (CO District 2) | 303-484-9596 <https://polis.house.gov/forms/writeyourrep/>

Rep. Scott Tipton (CO District 3) | 970-241-2499 <https://tipton.house.gov/contact/email>

Rep. Ken Buck (CO District 4) | 970-702-2136 <https://buck.house.gov/contact/email>

Rep. Doug Lamborn (CO District 5) | 719-520-0055 <https://lamborn.house.gov/contact/leave-a-comment.htm>

Rep. Mike Coffman (CO District 6) | 720-748-7514 <https://coffman.house.gov/contact/>

Rep. Ed Perlmutter (CO District 7) | 303-274-7944 <https://perlmutter.house.gov/forms/writeyourrep/>

## **Contact Info for Colorado General Assembly**

Rep. Marc Catlin (CO House District 58) 303-866-2955  
[marc.catlin.house@state.co.us](mailto:marc.catlin.house@state.co.us)

Sen. Don Coram (CO Senate District 6) 303-866-4884  
[don.coram.senate@state.co.us](mailto:don.coram.senate@state.co.us)



**MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!**



**2017-2018 LWV  
Community Support**

The League of Women Voters of Montrose County, serving Montrose and Delta counties, thanks these local businesses, organizations and individuals who have donated financial and in-kind support.

Please **add your thank you** when you patronize these businesses or visit with these individuals.

**Alpine Archeological  
Alpine Bank  
Horsefly Brewing Company  
La Voz del Pueblo  
The Montrose Mirror  
Dennis Olmstead  
Ron Britten  
Karen and Bob Nicholson  
Judy Kittson**

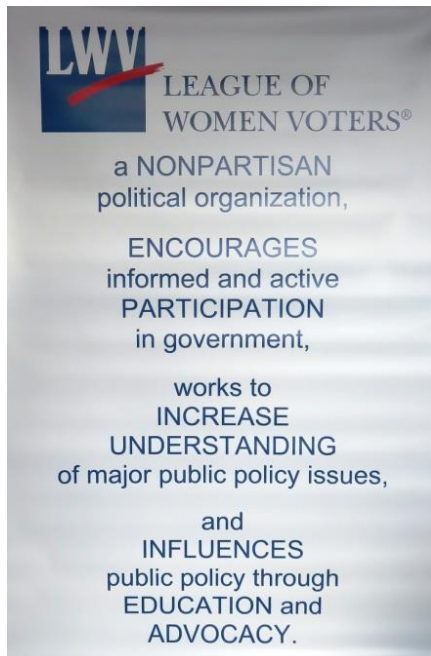
**Local League  
Calendar**

**Mark Yours!**

**Community Program  
"Equality for  
Washington, D.C."**

Thursday, April 5  
**12:30 – 1:30**  
Montrose Library  
Community Room

**Annual Meeting**  
Thursday, May 10  
11:45 – 1:30  
Vista Charter School



**Check out our Website:**

[www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org](http://www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org)

Our new webmaster, Tanya Ishikawa, will keep us updated on and linked to local, state and national activities, issues and websites.

**Check us out on Facebook  
too:**

Google "League of Women Voters of Montrose County, Colorado" and then click "Like us" on Facebook.

**Join League of Women Voters of Montrose County  
serving Montrose & Delta counties - 2017-2018  
Not for Women Only!**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Individual \$60** (Of this amount \$32 goes to National League;  
\$20 goes to State League; \$8 is retained by the Montrose League)

\_\_\_ **Household \$90** – Two members in one household (National  
League receives \$48; State League \$30; \$12 is retained by the Montrose  
League)

\_\_\_ I understand that I can join without being active, and this is my  
intent at the present time.

\_\_\_ I would like to make a contribution beyond regular dues and  
understand it will go directly to our local League (Thank You!).

\_\_\_ **Sustaining Member \$100**

\_\_\_ I would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Montrose  
League. Write a separate check to **League of Women Voters CO  
Education Fund. Write "Montrose" on the check's memo line.**

Please make checks payable to **League of Women Voters of  
Montrose County**. Mail to P.O. Box 3321, Montrose, CO 81402

**Membership information is available at**  
<http://montrose.co.lwvnet.org/join form.html>

**2017-2018 Administrative Team**

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MONTROSE COUNTY  
SERVING MONTROSE AND DELTA COUNTIES  
P.O. BOX 3321, MONTROSE, CO 81402

**The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan  
political organization, encourages informed and  
active participation in government, works to  
increase understanding of major public policy  
issues and influences public policy through  
education and advocacy.**