

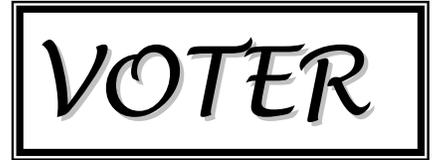


January 2018

Membership: 40

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

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



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## HAPPY NEW YEAR, LEAGUERS!



Time to ring in a new year and traditionally the time to make resolutions. This year why don't we try something a little different and create re-solutions to achieve our goals. Let's take a deep breath, imagine a thoughtful perspective, and form new ways to work with current realities. Speaking of which-----

### **LWV MOD Squad --- Montrose, Ouray, Delta = Motivation, Optimism, Dedication!**



Susan Chandler Reed was the photographer

A festive time and meaningful conversation abounded at the December 14 holiday luncheon. We resolved that our League, now encompassing three counties, must work to offset the anxiety, pessimism, and fear resulting from the deep political divisions within our country. The polarization has made some citizens so disheartened that they have tuned out, which is dangerous to our democratic system of government. In this time of heightened partisanship, gridlock between policy makers, and increased frustration among the public, there has never been a more urgent need for the reasoned, factual and civil voice the League of Women Voters brings to our community, state and nation. So, focus we will in 2018 on the MOD theme and re-solutions to maximize our community outreach, our impact, and we will creatively strive to **Make Democracy Work!**

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## **LOCAL LEAGUE NEWS**

### **TIME TO RENEW YOUR LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP! HEARTY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY RENEWED!**

**As a member, you are a crucial part of League's non-partisan, hands-on work to safeguard democracy and create lasting change.** Refer to Page 6. PMP monies for LWVUS and LWVCO are compiled as of January 31, so please send in your renewal at your earliest convenience.

## **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS - ALL THINGS ELECTIONS & VOTING #4**

### **MONEY IN POLITICS**



### **Is Our Democracy in Danger? How Money Impacts Elections**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11 AT NOON  
MONTROSE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

PRESENTATION, PLUS A SPEAKER, ART GOODTIMES

DISCUSSION OF AUDIENCE IDEAS and PERSPECTIVES TO FOLLOW

BRING A FRIEND!

### **Bon Voyage and Best Wishes to Two League Members**

Kalena Scherben and Diego Rubalcava-Alvarez have both relocated, Kalena to Florida and Diego to California. Although our local league is sorry to lose them, both have said they intend to join local leagues in their new cities, so the two coasts will gain two valuable members.

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF COLORADO

### **EZ Grant Awarded to LWV Montrose!**

The LWVCO Board awarded our League the EZ Grant application submitted by Gretchen Nicholoff for a "Voter Education Activities" project. The primary target audience is younger voters, specifically high school and college-aged students, with an important secondary target audience being the Hispanic community. We plan to work with schools, student organization, other civic and governmental organizations to facilitate voter registration, publicize voter resources such as Voter411.org, and increase voters' awareness of important issues at the local, state and federal levels.

Project leaders are Gretchen and Barb Krebs. We would like to get started with the planning of this project in January, so if you are interested in assisting the leaders, please contact them at your earliest convenience. Kudos to Gretchen for a well-written request!

### **Women's March – Saturday, January 20 – Grand Junction**

**We march in solidarity for social justice, human rights, and equality for women and all marginalized people nationwide.**

Please be aware that the League will be participating in this event and asking all members to join in. Watch for an e-mail to be sent out in the next week with details. In the meantime, the websites links below will familiarize you with the movement.

Colorado Chapter:

<https://www.marchoncolorado.org/>

Women's March National:

[WELCOME](#)



**The numbers are in and...  
National Voter Registration Day 2017 was a huge success!**

Thanks to the involvement of **9,631 volunteers** from **2,851 partners** across the country, we collectively gathered **124,290 new or updated voter registrations**. Both of these numbers far exceeded our original goals of 2,000 partners and 75,000 registrations. As you may remember, the League of Women Voters was a premier partner, and our local League participated in Montrose, Ouray, and Delta counties. Thanks again to those who played a part!



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

**Per President, Chris Carson on October 26, 2017**

## **We the People Democracy Reform Act of 2017, Senate Bill 1880**

The League supports this act sponsored by Senator Tom Udall as it “combines in one bill several key democracy reform proposals providing an important roadmap for solving the vital issues facing our political system. At a time when too many American do not think they have a meaningful voice in their democracy, when confidence in our institutions is at historic lows and cynicism at record highs, this democracy reform package is needed more than ever. The reforms included will empower citizens and remove barriers to participation for all Americans, irrespective of party. This legislation will:

1. Break down barriers that prevent Americans from registering to vote. The Act establishes an opt-out system of automatic registration requires states to allow same-day registration and includes the establishment of online voter registration for all eligible voters.
2. Empower small donors by creating a public financing system to match small contributions to presidential and Senate candidates. It will also close disclosure loopholes that allow outside groups to flood elections with millions of dollars of secret money.
3. Define coordination between candidates and Super PACs, provide real-time reporting for donations larger than \$1,000, require candidates to take responsibility for financing campaign ads, establish a new agency to oversee federal elections, and put in place other campaign finance and lobbying reforms.
4. Establish independent, citizen redistricting commissions at the state level to draw congressional districts allowing voters to pick their politicians, not the other way around.

## **Honest Ads Act, Senate Bill 1989**

The League supports the bipartisan legislation introduced by Senator Amy Klobuchar in the 115<sup>th</sup> U.S. Senate in October that addresses the need for new rules to expose efforts undertaken by foreign interests to intervene in U.S. elections and that will improve transparency of online political ads. The League joined 27 reform groups calling on senators to support and co-sponsor the legislation.

## **National Popular Vote Interstate Compact**

The League supports the **National Popular Vote Interstate Compact** (NPVIC), an agreement among a group of U.S. states and the District of Columbia to award all their respective electoral **votes** to whichever presidential candidate wins the overall **popular vote** in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The compact is designed to ensure that the candidate who wins the most popular votes is elected president, and it will come into effect only when it will guarantee that outcome. As of December 2017, it has been adopted by ten states and the District of Columbia. Together, they have 165 electoral votes, which is 30.7% of the total Electoral College and 61.1% of the votes needed to give the compact legal force. (per Wikipedia)

**EDUCATE, ADVOCATE, IMPACT!**

**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**

**Local League  
Calendar**

**Mark Yours!**

**Money in Politics**  
Thursday, January 11  
Noon in Montrose Library  
Community Room

**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.



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

a NONPARTISAN  
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.

**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](http://montrose.co.lwvnet.org/join_form.html)**

**2017-2018 Administrative Team**

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**Still looking for a Voter editor! Fresh eyes for our new year. If you are interested in taking on this role, contact Nancy Ball at 249-8963.**



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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.**