



**57 Members Making Democracy Work at [www.lwvchaffeecounty.org](http://www.lwvchaffeecounty.org)**

### In This Issue

- ✓ Annual Dinner
- ✓ 2015-16 Programs
- ✓ LWVCO Convention
- ✓ Geranium Sales
- ✓ Items of Note

## CALENDAR 2015

- June 10** – LWVCC Board Meeting, 3-5 p.m., Buena Vista Library
- June 17** – LWVCO Leader of Democracy event, Denver
- June 26-27** – LWVCO Leadership Recharge, Frisco
- July 4** – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parades
- August 17** – Annual picnic, Buena Vista
- Sept. 19** – LWVCO League Day, Denver
- Sept. 21** – Mayors' Panel, Buena Vista
- October** – Candidate/issues forum
- Nov. 16** – Area Council on Aging, Salida
- December** – Behavioral health, Buena Vista

## Annual dinner and meeting April 20

Close to 40 members of the League of Women Voters of Chaffee County (LWVCC) attended the annual dinner and meeting April 20 at the Steamplant Annex in Salida. The evening began with the business meeting and concluded with a presentation by the Alzheimer's Association.



*Members listen to guest speaker Ann Carter.*

At the annual business meeting, members voted on new board members, the budget and a minor change in the bylaws regarding membership dues. Members elected Marjie Gray, Jan Scar, Linda Mulka, Melissa Smith, Deborah Lively, Gail Brooks, Libby Fay, Rose Mirich and Scott Hartman to the board. Marilyn Box was re-elected as treasurer. Deborah Lively has since resigned because she is moving out of the county. The amendment to the bylaws proposed to change Article VIII, Sec. 2 Dues, on page 4 by revising the deadline for payment of membership dues from April to September of each year. The bylaws change and the budget were both approved.

Following the annual business meeting and dinner, guest speaker Ann Carter delivered a speech on Alzheimer's disease, supports and services. As regional director based in Pueblo, Carter provides family consultations, education for professional caregivers and the general public, support groups and links to other resources, including the Alzheimer's 24-hour HELPLINE at 1-800-272-3900.

She discussed various topics related to Alzheimer's including the costs of treating the disease, the aging population, prevention through healthy living and the association's services.

## Programs planned for 2015-2016

On May 18 several members met at the Buena Vista Public Library to discuss the LWVCC upcoming programs for the 2015-2016 year. After some discussion, the following programs were approved:

- Sept. 21 – Mayors' panel (Buena Vista, Salida, Poncha Springs), Buena Vista
- October – Candidate and issue forums
- Nov. 16 – Area Council on Aging, Salida
- Dec. 7 or 14 – Behavioral health consensus questions, Buena Vista
- Jan. 18 – County commissioners, Salida
- Feb. 15 – Veterans' affairs, Buena Vista
- March 21 – Marijuana, the effects of legalization on state, county and city resources (e.g. law enforcement, health issues, tax revenue), Salida
- April – Annual dinner and business meeting, Buena Vista

The group also heard an update on the League of Women Voters of Colorado (LWVCO) annual convention held May 16 and 17 in Boulder.

Volunteers are still needed to help with the annual picnic August 17 in Buena Vista. Please let a board member know if you are interested.



## 2015-2016 Board

Gail Brooks  
gallery@brooksphtogallery.com  
Marjie Gray  
marjiegray2000@yahoo.com

Scott Hartman  
shmhd@hotmail.com

Libby Fay  
faycpa@aol.com

Rose Mirich  
rosie@rockymountains.net

Linda Mulka  
llmulka@msn.com

Jan Scar  
scars@RockyMountains.net

Melissa Smith  
msmith75@wildblue.net

**Treasurer:** Marilyn Box  
marbox@mac.com

## Chaffee delegates attend LWVCO convention

LWVCC members Gail Brooks and Deborah Lively attended the LWVCO convention May 16 and 17 in Boulder. The packed agenda included updates from each league across the state, presentations on various topics, and business meetings. Members also had a chance to take tours around the city of Boulder.

The first day included a presentation by the Estes Park League on their successful campaign to ban scenic helicopters over Rocky Mountain National Park and their desire to extend the ban to other national parks and monuments. The program also included a presentation by FOCUS reentry, an organization dedicated to reducing recidivism in Boulder County. There was a discussion about strategic planning and speakers on living wage issues.

The second day league lobbyist Christine Watson delivered a report on the Colorado General Assembly. A copy of the final report is attached to this e-mail. At the business meeting, the delegates decided to update the LWVCO position on health care to include behavioral health but declined to make changes to the positions on fracking and minimum wage.

They also elected a new board and approved the budget. The new board consists of the following members:

- President: Barbara Mattison (Denver)
- First VP (Program): Nancy Crow (Larimer)
- Second VP (Administration): Cath Perrone (Jefferson)
- Third VP (Membership): Cynthia Thorstad (Denver)
- Fourth VP (Voter Services): Gerry Cummins (Arapahoe & Douglas)
- Secretary: Sue Vaughan (Jefferson)
- Treasurer: Linda Porter (Jefferson)
- Director at Large: Karen Conner (Montrose)
- Director at Large: OPEN
- Director (Voter Editor): Marilyn Brown (La Plata)
- Director of Communications: Sonia Koetting (Larimer)
- Director of Development: Cinnie Auer (Denver)
- Director at Large: Marlu Burkamp (Arapahoe and Douglas)

Next year the LWVCO council will meet in Montrose May 21 and 22.

## Spring fundraiser a success

A BIG thank you to all LWVCC members who participated in the annual spring geranium sales fundraiser. We sold 123 geraniums this year for a profit of \$647 - just short of our \$700 goal!





## Items of note...

**This year, the League of Women Voters celebrates its 95th anniversary.**

Suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt founded the League on Feb. 14, 1920, just six months prior to passage of the 19th Amendment. Since its inception the league has focused on empowering citizens to take part in our Democracy and improving our great country—from helping to lead the effort to establish the United Nations after World War II to promoting the National Voter Registration Act. Visit [www.lwvchaffeecounty.org](http://www.lwvchaffeecounty.org) to learn more about the league's contributions over the years.

**LWVCO's Leadership Recharge** will take place in Frisco June 26 and 27 at the Baymont Inn & Suites. The event offers training for current, new and potential league leaders. The registration deadline is June 10. Members interested in attending should let a board member know.

**The second annual Colorado Leader of Democracy** event recognizing Justice Rebecca Love Kourlis will be held Wednesday, June 17 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Denver. More information is available at <http://www.lwvcolorado.org/docs/leader-of-democracy-2015.pdf>.