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League Meetings

Feb. 3 – MDW Committee evaluates award nominees

Feb. 13 – County Government Review with Com. Dennis Giese. 3:00 p.m.

Feb. 13 – Free Screening of *Iron Jawed Angels*, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 22 – Strategy Meeting, Buena Vista Library, 3:30 p.m.

Mar. 12 MDWA at Salida SteamPlant with portrayal of Jeannette Rankin, first U.S. Congresswoman, 6:30 p.m.

Apr. 9 – Annual dinner with Ed Quillen in Buena Vista

May 14 – Employment at Department of Corrections; in Buena Vista

League Leaders

Nancy Walters, President
 Cheryl Brown-Kovacic,
 Past President
 Jan Scar, Secretary
 Carol Sanford, Treasurer
 Marjie Gray, Voters Service
 Jackie Sobczak, Voters Service
 Karen Robinson, Programs
 Nita Stevens, Membership
 Myra Barrett, Membership
 Publicity, Tracy Craig
 Jeanne Younhaus, Finance

Giese to Address County Issues February 13th



Dennis Giese, Chaffee County Commissioner, chats with Marjie Gray, Voters Service Chair, at League picnic, August 2011.

Note change of time below! Dennis Giese, County Commissioner, will talk with us about current issues affecting Chaffee County. In addition he's willing to answer questions that arise and also questions that we provide him beforehand. Send your questions to Karen Robinson at karenrobinson@chaffee.net.

When: Monday, February 13, **3:00 p.m.**

Where: Sangre de Cristo Meeting Room, 29780 N Hwy 24, Buena Vista

What: League meeting, open to public, announcements and Giese's talk; followed by free screening of *Iron Jawed Angels* (below).

Iron Jawed Angels Seek Voting Rights

In 1917, strong women protested on the streets of Washington, D.C., for our right to vote. The HBO movie, *Iron Jawed Angels*, exposes their fierce fight against the ruling male establishment.

Lest we forget their heroic effort (and the subsequent birth of LWV), plan to attend this free screening of the award-winning movie starring Hilary Swank, Frances O'Connor and Angelica Huston. And forward the message to every woman's group you belong to!

Where: The State Highway Theater, 402 E Main, Buena Vista

When: Monday, February 13, 5-7:30 p.m.

What: Free movie & popcorn, cash bar, followed by a brief discussion

See also <http://iron-jawed-angels.com/reviews.htm>

Special thanks go to Nita Stevens and Myra Barrett, who organized the event, and to Kathy McCoy, who designed our poster—print it at <http://lwvchaffeecounty.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Iron-Jawed-Poster-Design-final-drft.pdf>

For carpooling from Salida, contact Myra at myrab@aol.com



Primary Caucuses

Republicans: Tuesday, Feb. 7
at 6:15 p.m.

Southern precincts meet at
Salida Middle School.

Northern precincts meet at
Congregational United
Church of Christ in Buena
Vista. See also

www.chaffeeGOP.com

Democrats: Tuesday, Mar. 6
Time TBA.

Southern precincts meet at
Salida High School.

Northern precincts meet at
Buena Vista High School, all-
purpose room. See also

<http://chaffeecountydemocrats.org/>

MDWA Committee to Evaluate Nominees

The Making Democracy Work Award committee is reviewing the nominations on Friday, February 3. They plan to announce the 2012 honoree at the screening of *Iron Jawed Angels* and in the papers that same week. We've had more interest this year than last, so the committee's task won't be easy.

LWVCC will present the award on March 12th at the Salida SteamPlant. Following the presentation, actress Deborah Blanche will portray Jeannette Rankin, who in 1916 became the first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Rankin had led a dynamic grassroots organization that in 1914 succeeded in winning the vote for women in her home state of Montana, even before women had the right to vote nationally.

Tickets will be distributed to League members at the Feb 13th meeting and made available through Betsy Downing thereafter (539-6454, betsy@my.amigo.net).



You are invited...

Help keep our League on its successful path! Come to the strategic planning session on February 22, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Buena Vista Library. We're serving light refreshments and discussing two key topics:

- Planning for viable, shared leadership
- Attracting more and/or active members

If you have ideas about how we should run our local league, come join the discussion. If you can't come in person, then share your thoughts with one of the board members. Let us know what you think is working and what you'd like to change. You can easily email any of the board members by using the form at

<http://lwvchaffeecounty.org/officers-and-committee-chairs/>

Checking Campaign Facts

As political rhetoric grows more acrimonious, it helps to find a source you can trust.

Check the facts by using the following list of websites, provided by Julie Ott in the Pike Peaks Voter:

www.factcheck.org

A project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania

www.politifact.com

from the Tampa Bay Times

For information about who is giving money to your representatives, go to www.opensecrets.org.

For information about the supposed Congressional Reform Act of 2011 (soon to be 2012?), check out

www.snopes.com or

www.TruthorFiction.com.

They'll give you the real lowdown on this proposed "28th Amendment" that's gone viral and many other Internet hoaxes.

[I found the Truth or Fiction site a bit annoying to use. NW]

Let the sunshine in!

Legislature Day Offers "Meaty" Topics

Cheryl Brown-Kovacic, Marjie Gray and Nancy Walters attended League Legislature Day, Jan 23, held in Old Supreme Court Chambers of the State Capitol. On the agenda were three topics:

- Reapportionment (redistricting) Commission for state elections, presented by Professor Loevy of Colorado College (R) and Dolores Atencio (D)
- Strategic Issues Facing State Government, a summary of Denver University, presented by Jim Griesemer, Dean Emeritus of Daniels College of Business
- The Lobato Case: What This Means for Colorado, presented by Kathy Gebhart, attorney for the plaintiffs; and David Blake, Deputy Attorney General for Legal Policy and Government affairs, on appeal.

Coincidentally, all three topics brought out a need to revise parts of the state constitution to (1) make redistricting less biased, (2) strengthen the fiscal sustainability of our government, and (3) address "thorough and uniform" education throughout the state.

Staff lobbyist for LWVCO, Christine Watson, reviewed bills scheduled for the current legislative session and fielded questions about other bills, such as liquor licensing, which might be brought up.

For a list of proposed bills and their progress, see the League's first and second Legislative Letters for 2012: <http://www.lwvcolorado.org/legislative-letters.html>. The letters provide information about League advocacy along with a list of legislative leaders, committee chairs and committee members for both house and senate. Information on pending bills begins on page seven.



Cath Perrone, LWVCO President, opens 2012 Legislature Day



Cheryl & Nancy join other League members on Legislature Day.