



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

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- ✓ Legislature Conference
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- ✓ News in Brief
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- ✓ Great Decisions

## CALENDAR 2013 - 2014

- December 3** – LWVCC  
Pick up Poinsettias, BV
- December 9** – LWVCC  
Mayors Update, BV
- January 13** – LWVCC  
Commissioners Update, Salida
- January 24** – LWVCC, Guests  
Great Decisions, BV Library
- January 27** – LWVCO  
Legislative Conference,  
Denver
- February 10** – LWVCC  
Agricultural/Food Issues, BV
- March 10** – LWVCC  
Consensus for Agricultural  
Study; Legislative Action,  
Salida
- April 14** – LWVCC  
Annual Dinner, BV
- May 16-17** – LWVCO  
Council in Grand Junction
- June 20-21** – LWVCO  
Leadership Retreat, Frisco



## Panel of Mayors to Address Critical Issues

On December 9, the League of Women Voters of Chaffee County will host a panel of mayors, representing each municipality in Chaffee County, who will update citizens about critical issues.

The following mayors have been invited: Joel Benson, Buena Vista; Richard Furton, Poncha Springs; and Jim Dickson, Salida. If the mayor is unable to attend, a representative, such as the town administrator, will participate. Administrator Jerry L'Estrange is scheduled to speak for Poncha Springs

The mayors will discuss the most pressing issues for their municipality and their ideas for dealing with those issues. It's an opportunity to learn how effective our elected officials plan to be at putting tax dollars to work. The meeting allows time for questions from the audience and further discussion.

**Date:** Monday, December 9, 2013

**Time:** **11:00** for social gathering, coffee and tea provided;  
bring a bag lunch  
**11:30** for welcome to new members & guests, reports,  
announcements  
**12:00** for the program, questions and informal discussion

**Place:** Sangre de Cristo Electric Association Community Room

**Carpool:** From Salida, meet at 10:30 a.m., in public parking by Safeway

### Some Questions to Consider:

- What plan does Mayor Benson favor for re-engineering HWY 24? Why?
- What part of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan does he consider most critical?
- What is the most important issue for Poncha Springs and what is being done?
- How will Salida address the three most important issues identified its survey: Employment, affordable housing, and preserving small town character?
- How will Mayor Dickson cope with citizens who oppose all government?

**Municipal Web Links:**    [Buena Vista](#)    [Poncha Springs](#)    [Salida](#)



## 2013-2014 Board

Marjie Gray, Chair  
gray2fish@gmail.com  
Carol Sanford, Programs  
caroljean1945@gmail.com  
Jan Scar, Secretary  
scars@RockyMountains.net  
Nancy Walters, Publicity  
nejwalters285@gmail.com  
Jeanne Younghaus, Finance  
jlarkriver@rockymountains.net

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

## Committee Members

### Voter Service for Sept-Oct

Scott Hartman, Chair  
Elizabeth Ritchie, Chair  
Marilyn Box  
Karen Dils  
Mary Helen Dunn  
Libby Fay  
Linda Mulka  
Dave Mustoe  
Karen Robinson  
Eileen Rogers  
Bob Sander  
Carol Sanford  
Melissa Smith  
Jackie Sobczak  
Nita Stevens  
Jeanne Younghaus

### Finance

Libby Fay  
Scott Hartman  
Carol Sanford  
Jeanne Younghaus

### Fund Raising

Marilyn Box

### Meeting Venues

Tracy Craig: Salida  
Jeanne Younghaus: BV

### Publicity

Gail Brooks (web hosting)  
Nancy Walters (web & print)

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## Our State Capital: Where the Action IS

Register now  
For Saturday, Jan. 13, 2014  
**Legislative Conference**

**Consider going to this highly informative day at the State Capitol.**

### AGENDA

Check-in 8:30 a.m.

Preview of 2013 Legislative Session: 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 noon  
Old Supreme Court Chambers

Lunch with League Lobbyist: 12:15 – 2.00 p.m.  
History Colorado Center

The \$35 fee, paid by LWVCC,  
includes lunch, program, and admission to the History Center.

Deadline for Registration is January 2, so let Marilyn Box know soon  
so she can send in the registration check(s).

To register, you'll need to provide the following,  
preferably by email: Marbox@mac.com

- Your Name
- Email Address
- Lunch Choice:  
Pecan Chicken Salad or  
Vegetable Flatbread

A car pool could be arranged.

For more details, see

<http://www.lwvcolorado.org/news.html#legConf>

**If you're not going to the conference**, you can keep up-to-date with  
pending legislation by going to the monthly online legislative letter:

<http://www.lwvcolorado.org/legislative-letters.html>

It's a comprehensive source of information about leaders in the  
legislature, committees, bills being considered, the league's position on  
pending legislation, issues, and more. LWVCC subscribes to one printed  
letter, but anyone can access the letter online each month within two or  
three days of it being mailed.



## Committee Members, Cont'd.

### Membership

Ann Graham  
Nita Stevens

### August Picnic 2013

Carol Sanford

### Annual Dinner

Barb Brady

### Hospitality

Betsy Downing  
Mary Helen Dunn

### Great Decisions

Barb Brady  
Mary Helen Dunn  
Carol Sanford  
Nancy Walters

**A BIG THANK YOU**  
to everyone who volunteers!

## GREAT DECISIONS

### Start

Thursday, Jan 23,  
2014

### Topics

- Defense Technology
- Israel and the U.S.
- Turkey's Challenges
- Islamic Awakening
- Energy Independence
- Food and Climate
- China's Foreign Policy
- U.S. Trade Policy

Link to [schedule](#) and to  
topic descriptions.

If you are interested in  
getting a briefing book for  
\$20.00, which covers the  
cost of mailing, email  
Carol Sanford at  
caroljean1945@gmail.com

## News in Brief

### Election Winners

Two of our LWVCC members are now elected officials for the City of Salida. Eileen Rogers will represent Ward 2 on the City Council, and Cheryl Brown-Kovacic will serve as Treasurer, a non-voting member of the council. Congratulations to both of them!

### Geothermal

Our [geothermal study](#) and [final position statement](#) are now on our website for everyone to see. The League is very grateful that Cheryl Brown-Kovacic and Jeanne Younghaus, original committee members for our study, followed through to the very end!

### Poinsettia Pick-up

The Poinsettias you ordered will be ready for pick up, Tuesday, December 2, from 1:00 to 5 p.m. at the Buena Vista Library. Plants destined for southern Chaffee County are being delivered by Tracy Craig. If you forgot to order plants or want more, stop by. There might be some extras available.

## Useful Internet Links

[info@lwvcolorado.org](mailto:info@lwvcolorado.org)

It's the email address for Julie Leonard, Executive Director of LWV Colorado. If you would like to **receive the Colorado VOTER electronically**, email Julie. You'll be saving paper and money for the state league.

<http://www.lwv.org/>

The LWVUS website offers extensive information about national League activities and studies. Use the excellent search function to start exploring a policy issue that you're concerned about, such as the agricultural update study.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKm2Ch3-Myg>

GMOs (genetically modified organisms) are a confusing, controversial issue. For a humorous and multi-sided view, watch this 25-minute video—*The Eyes of Nye - Genetically Modified Foods* (by Bill Nye).