



League Lines

Newsletter for the

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ESTES PARK MARCH 2018

www.lwv.org

www.lwv-estespark.org

www.lwvcolorado.org

LWV EP CALENDAR – March 2018 – May 2018

March	
Tues., 3/20	League Program: Recycling Update, Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies, 6 – 8 pm (Note this is an evening program!)
Tues., 3/20	
Wed., 3/21	Candidate Forum for Junior Election, 7 – 9 pm at the Hondius Room at the Library
April	
Sun., 4/1	April Fools Day!  and Easter Sunday! 
Thurs., 4/12	Hospital Board candidate forum, Estes Park Town Hall, 7 – 8 pm
Fri., 4/13	April Board meeting: Good Samaritan Multipurpose Room, 8 – 10 am – all members welcome!
Tues., 4/17	Tax Day 
Sat., 4/21	Estes Recycles Day, Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies, 9 am – 1 pm
Sun., 4/22	Earth Day! 
Wed., 4/25	League Program, Rocky Mountain National Park, Hondius Room in the Library, 10 am – 12 noon
May	
Sat., 5/5	 Buy your duck race tickets now and support the League's Recycling Committee and Voter Services Committee!
Fri., 5/11	May Board meeting: Good Samaritan Multipurpose Room, 8 – 10 am – all members welcome!
Sun., 5/13	
Wed., 5/16	League of Women Voters of Estes Park Annual Meeting, YMCA of the Rockies. Business meeting at 10 am followed by luncheon

**President's Message
by Alice Reuman**

Since 1920 the League of Women Voters has been an activist, grassroots organization whose leaders believed that voters should play a critical role in democracy. Founded just six months before the 19th amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, giving women the right to vote after a 72-year struggle, the League has long been dedicated to "Making Democracy Work."

Now the LWVUS is in the process of reworking its mission, vision, and value statements, which it asks each state and local league to discuss and adopt.

These statements are as follows:

Mission Statement: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Vision Statement: We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

Value Statement: We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

While LWVUS has indicated state and local adoption of these three statements is optional, it believes that League is stronger when "we" speak with one voice. I believe that to be true here in Estes Park. LWVUS further states it has chosen the wording of the value statement with great care and with a nod to its history: "It is well understood that it takes a collective movement to drive change. We welcome all, but it is part of our competitive advantage that we offer opportunities to women not found elsewhere."

Please read and consider the three statements above and share your comments with me. We may wish to take action on these statements at our final meeting in May.

Yours in League,
Alice Reuman, President

LWVWP to Host "What Are We Doing With Our Recyclables" March 20

On Tuesday March 20 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Community Church of the Rockies, 1700 Brodie Avenue, the League of Women Voters is hosting a program highlighting what Estes Park, other mountain communities, and Larimer County do with their recyclables.

Our featured panelists will be:

- **Elise Rowton**, Safeway Manager, who will inform us about all the recycling efforts as well as the use of plastic bags at Safeway in Estes Park;
- **Kate Bailey**, Policy and Research Director of EcoCycle in Boulder, who will discuss initiatives underway in other mountain towns to improve recycling and raise awareness;
- **Ron Gilkerson**, Larimer County Solid Waste Project Director, who will outline Larimer County wasteshed options, including recycling, as the County moves toward closure of its landfill by 2025.

Each speaker will focus on the current status of recycling in, or relevant to, the Estes Valley and will discuss options to improve our ability to reduce, reuse, or recycle the materials we use in our daily lives.

For more information, please contact Alice Reuman at 970-619-0530.

Junior Election News

There will be a Junior Election Forum for the Town Trustee election on March 21, 7-9 pm, in the Hondius Room at the Library. All 10 candidates have accepted. This will give our young residents of the Estes Valley an opportunity to form educated opinions about who should make their decisions. All youth, grades K-12 (or out of school but not yet 18) are eligible to ask questions. Adults older than 18 are welcome to attend.

Students will vote April 3. Some 5th graders, EPMS, and EPHS will vote at school on their iPads. All other students may vote at the Estes Valley Library.

Thanks to our Members!

Thank you again to all the members of the League of Women Voters for your support! We are now 64 members strong and continue to welcome your enthusiasm and your involvement. Nametag buttons are being made for new members and if you can't find yours, please let us know and we will make you another one. Sometimes we are not allowed to speak at a meeting but our buttons project our presence!

Update on Fund Development

We have an exciting fundraiser event in the works. Three of us met with Melissa at Bird and Jim's to plan a luncheon the end of April. Our speaker will be talking about the National Popular Vote. The NPV plan is a state statute in the form of an interstate compact. It creates an agreement among states to award all of their electoral votes collectively to the presidential candidate who wins the national popular vote. It has been enacted into law in 11 states so far. This is a bi-partisan movement and should be a very interesting luncheon topic. Our tentative date is April 30th. More information to follow!

Save the Dates in April!

April 12th - The League of Women Voters of Estes Park (LWVEP) will host a candidate forum for the two candidates who are running for re-election to the Medical Center Board on April 12th from 7-8 pm in the Board Room of the Estes Park Town Hall.

The candidates are David Batey and Sandy Begley, who were elected November 7, 2017, and as their current terms will expire in May of this year, they are running for a four-year term. There is also a write-in candidate for the Medical Center Board but, as League rules prohibit participation in a forum by anyone who is not listed on the official ballot, that person will not be part of the candidate forum on April 12th.

The election will be May 8th and ballots will be mailed out from April 16th to April 23rd. The forum will be live-streamed and the LWVEP will take questions from the audience. We hope you will be able to join us for this important discussion on issues related to the Medical Center of Estes Park.

April 21st – Estes Recycles Day is scheduled for April 21 at the Community Church of the Rockies from 9 am – 1 pm. We will have Freecycle Estes, Rotary Shred-a-thon, and recycling stations for Electronics, Paint, and Metal. This event usually takes 100 volunteers to run smoothly. Contact Judi Smith (RRRcyc2se@gmail) if you have the time and interest to join our all-volunteer staff.

April 25th - LWVEP will host its annual meeting focusing on Rocky Mountain National Park. Darla Sidles, RMNP Superintendent, and Kyle Patterson, RMNP Public Information Officer, will address timely topics and answer audience questions about the Park. The meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to noon in the Hondius Room of the Public Library. Please save the date and plan to join us for our most popular program of the year. Look for more details about the meeting in April.



Remember the League in your Duck Race tickets!

Our Duck Race is coming – May 5th! On the adoption form, you will have an opportunity to support your League of Women (and men) Voters. We have two numbers you can circle for your support. They are #58 which would give your \$20 to our Community Recycling Committee and #59 which would give your \$20 to our Voter Education Fund. Please consider “adopting” either one or both of these endeavors. Join us for all the fun May 5th, watching all our duckies! There are also many prizes, including 1st – an 8 day trip to Costa Rica or \$6,000 and 2nd - an 8 day trip to the Mexican/Riviera Maya or \$3,000! Tickets available at www.epduckrace.org or you can call me – Joanie Crockett at [970-586-4540](tel:970-586-4540).

Great Decisions

Join us for our April 3rd discussion of foreign policy in our Great Decisions group. The more, the merrier! April's meeting will be on Russia, led by Dick Life, in the Hondius Room of the library starting at 11:30 am.

Of the five topics left, we are happy to have three facilitators already lined up!

Media and foreign policy – Ken Zornes May

South Africa's fragile democracy – Penny Pritchett September

Global health – Peter Reuman October

LWVEP is on Social Media!

Our League now has a Facebook page and a Twitter account. If you "do" Facebook, like our page at "League of Women Voters of Estes Park, CO". We will post upcoming events, voter information and other topics. If you "tweet", follow us on Twitter @LWVEPCO. We will tweet up-to-date information about our activities. And don't forget that we have long had a website: www.lwv-estespark.org.

Board Members

President – Alice Reuman	Programs – <i>open</i>
Vice-President – Liz Zornes	RMNP – Bonnie Seals & Jackie Hertel
Secretary – Jackie Hertel	Recycling – Diane Burkepile
Treasurer – Cherie Martin	Local Affairs – <i>open</i>
Membership – Sue Magnuson	Communications – Bonnie Seals
Development – Joanie Crockett	At-large – Judi Smith
Voter Services – <i>open</i>	

Mission Statement: The League of Women Voter is a nonpartisan political organization that promotes informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to both men and women 16 years of age and up.

Quote of the Month

I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country... corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the Republic is destroyed.

- Abraham Lincoln