
May 25, 2021

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

May Community Call

Defending Democracy one letter at a time!



Organizing Team
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE U.S.



Lizzy Ganssle
CAMPAIGN ORGANIZER



Alicia Gurrieri
ORGANIZING MANAGER



Luana Chaires
ORGANIZER



Alma Couverthie
NATIONAL ORGANIZING DIRECTOR

LWVUS Organizing Team

Housekeeping

- This meeting will be recorded to share with attendees after the call.
- If you are not speaking, please mute yourself to minimize distractions.
- If you have any questions or thoughts throughout the call, please feel free to drop them in the chat box. Staff will be monitoring the chat box.
- Close captioning will be used. Feel free to minimize if you find it distracting.

Community Norms



Bring your full self and
limit distractions.



What is learned here,
leaves here.



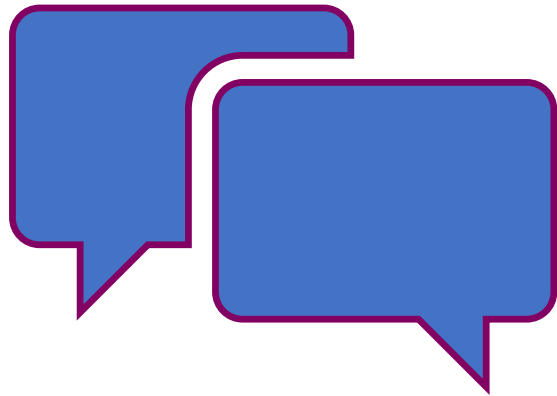
Use active and reflective
listening.



No one knows everything, but
together we know a lot!

Meet-And-Greet Icebreaker!

- Our LWV community is nationwide and 100 years strong!
- You will be assigned to a virtual breakout room in **groups of 4 for 10 minutes.**
 - Use this time to connect and chat with fellow League members!
 - You can talk about anything for 10 minutes if you need help use the suggested conversation starter.



Suggested Conversation Starter

Share your best League
advice you have ever
been given.



League of Women Voters[®]
of the Gunnison Valley

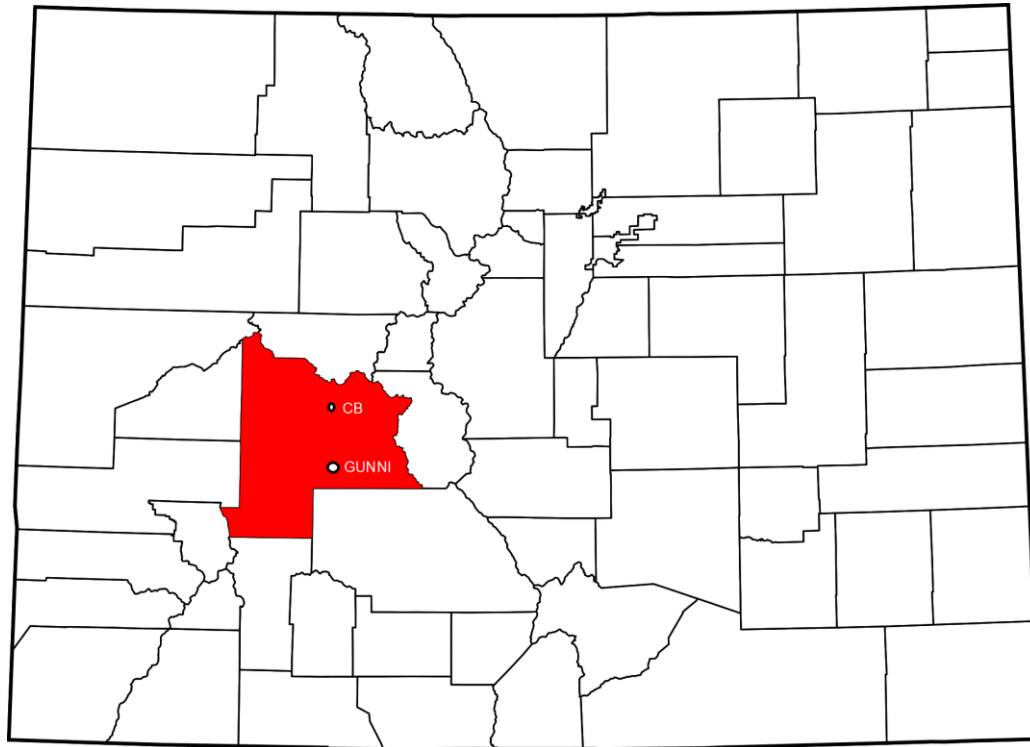
www.lwvgunnison.org

Email us: webmaster@lwvgunnison.org



League of Women Voters®
of the Gunnison Valley

Colorado



OUR INSPIRATION

LWV Colorado's Webinar:

Promoting Civil Discourse in Politics



www.nicd.arizona.edu



CO STATE REP. JENI ARNDT'S STORY

- Instructor for the NICD
- Bipartisan family
- Heard both sides of issues
- Sits across the aisle in Legislature

OUR LETTER:



Dear *Senator/Representative XX*:

In an effort to chip away at the barriers that divide us and find common goals that unite us, the **League of Women Voters of the Gunnison Valley** is asking that you do one simple thing – **ignore** the aisle and **sit** with members of the other party.

We urge you to sit "outside your box" so that you can listen to, talk with, and work with members and leaders from both sides of the aisle. Find what unites us because –

UNITED WE SIT, DIVIDED WE FAIL

Sincerely,

League of Women Voters
of the Gunnison Valley
www.lwvgunnison.org

MAKING
DEMOCRACY WORK[®]

lwvgunnison.org

✉ Add Me To Your Mailing List



Member Login

JOIN US

DONATE

SUGGESTION BOX




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LWVG is a **nonpartisan** political organization. We promote informed and active participation in government, act on selected governmental issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy.
Anyone, any gender, over age 16 is invited to join.

Join Us On
the National LWV's
Community Call
As We Share
Our Campaign
With Leagues Across the Country
May 25th @ 3:00 PM Mtn
ZOOM [Registration](#)

United We Sit, Divided We Fail

Join the Campaign!
Join your representatives and elected officials.



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

EMPOWERING VOTERS.
DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.

We **BELIEVE** in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

We **ENVISION** a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

LWVG's Current
** Call to Action **
**"UNITED WE SIT
DIVIDED WE FAIL"**
In case you missed it . . .
[Town Hall Video](#)

For more Information
[Click Here](#)
Members - tell us that you've sent
your letters:
[SURVEY](#)

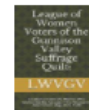
*"Women belong in all places where decisions are being made.
It shouldn't be that women are the exception."*
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Latest edition of:

The Gunnison Valley VOTER
Newsletter of League of Women Voters
of the Gunnison Valley

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to
justice everywhere."
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

NOW ON AMAZON!!!



Learn more:
[LWVG's Suffrage Quilt](#)

Contact your Elected Officials

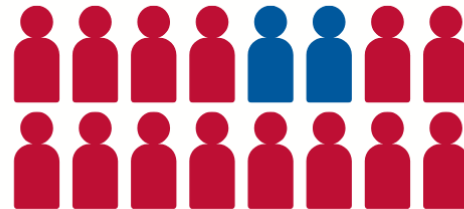
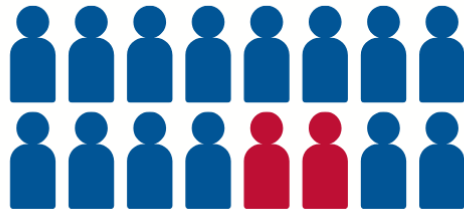
US Congress
CO Gov & Legislators
Gunnison County BOCC
Gunnison City Council
CB Town Council
Mt. CB Town Council
Pitkin Board of Trustees

Complete the [SURVEY](#) when you
do

LWVCO'S HOMEPAGE

United We Sit, Divided We Fail

Join the Campaign!
Ask your representative to sit across the aisle.



JULIE MCCLUSKIE



BARBARA MCLACHLAN

"I am working remotely this session . . . I just had a friend drive down from Denver, bringing me a large box of mail from the Capitol. **I was pleasantly surprised to find so many letters from the Gunnison League of Women Voters.** I so wholeheartedly agree with your "United We Sit, Divided We Fail" campaign . . . The League is a powerful force, and I couldn't be more grateful for all you do. Thanks for reaching out and making us all take a good hard look at what is important in politics. . .

Thank you!"

Barbara McLachlan
Colorado State Representative
House District 59

KEEP IT GOING

- Statewide – All Colorado Legislators
- Nationwide
 - All States' Legislators
 - All Members of Congress



League of Women Voters®
of the Gunnison Valley

WHAT'S NEXT?

Who will come up with the
next simple idea to morph into
a Call to Action?



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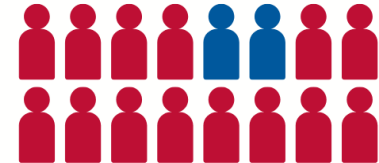
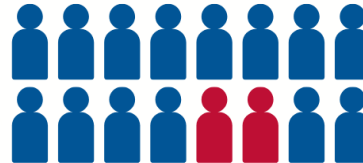
League of Women Voters®
of the Gunnison Valley

United We Sit, Divided We Fail

www.lwvgunnison.org

Email us:
webmaster@lwvgunnison.org

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Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force

Focus for 2021

In addition to United We Sit Campaign, we are focusing on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion locally.

The Colorado League made DEI a priority and with the change in leadership in Washington, we formed a LWVGW DEI Task Force in January .

Our program for February was Chloe Nicole Bowman, creator of Melanin Mountain Project, a local affiliate of Black Lives Matter.

In an effort to improve our DEI knowledge and practice, researching and attending AAUW & LWVCO webinars and other events.

- ❖ Attended 2-day local conference with Dr. Nita Mosby Tyler, founder of The Equity Project
- ❖ Met with Western Colorado University Diversity Club
- ❖ Added diversity topic books to our LWVGW library
- ❖ Black Women's Path to the Vote Six Minutes for Suffrage research
- ❖ DEI Task Force contributes frequently to meetings and website
- ❖ Applicant for Equity Grant from the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley
- ❖ LWVGW is in touch with Gunnison Valley Against Racism and other local groups on social media



Top - Chloe Bowman marches at a BLM parade in Crested Butte.



Right -Dr. Nita Mosby Tyler, author and former human services director for Denver city and county .



Suffrage Anniversary - Other LWVG Projects

Starting the 2nd Century of Suffrage Better Together –

Since the late 1960's women of all races in the US have the right to vote. This was not the case in August 1920. Now as we begin the 2nd 100 years of LWV, we continue to honor the women and men of the 20th Century who helped make this happen.

Members of the League of Women Voters of the Gunnison Valley have made suffrage history a priority over the past couple years! All this was achieved on top of election education, legislative action a new website and other work.

- ❖ Began with an informal book group reading and discussing *Jailed for Freedom* by Doris Stevens.
- ❖ Anniversary Tea for 100 on March 1, 2020 just before the Covid19 pandemic hit.
- ❖ Researched and executed an Anniversary Suffrage Quilt.
- ❖ LWVG Suffrage Proclamations made by City of Gunnison and Gunnison County Board of Commissioners.
- ❖ Six Minutes of Suffrage and authoring our own books.
- ❖ Even Suffrage Recipe as part of the winter holiday plans.





We will all remember 2020 for different reasons and for the same reason.
Other work accomplished by LWVGV in 2020 and 2021.

- ❖ **Work continues despite Covid** – Meetings by Zoom, prepared pro/con ballot issues statement, voter registration duties, new website, rewrote our by-laws.
- ❖ **United We Sit, Divided We Fail**
- ❖ **Programs Team** – Monthly programs
- ❖ **Communications Team** – Spanning nine weeks with 22 articles in the two newspapers.
- ❖ **Voter Services Team**- Partnered with WCU candidates form several events, The Presidents play.
- ❖ **State and Local Awards**– Non Partisan Voter Information, early voting both Colorado Secretary of State and Gunnison County Clerk Awards.
- ❖ **Suffrage Quilt** – Created in isolation to honor Suffragists, potential fund raiser.
- ❖ **Christmas Fundraiser** –Center for Mental Health



League of Women Voters®
of the Gunnison Valley



Suffrage Quilt Project

Now that the pandemic is loosening its grip on our communities, LWV of the Gunnison Valley is ready to offer up our Suffrage Anniversary Quilt.

LWVGCV would love to see this quilt go to the individual or organization that is interested in owning and displaying this keepsake.

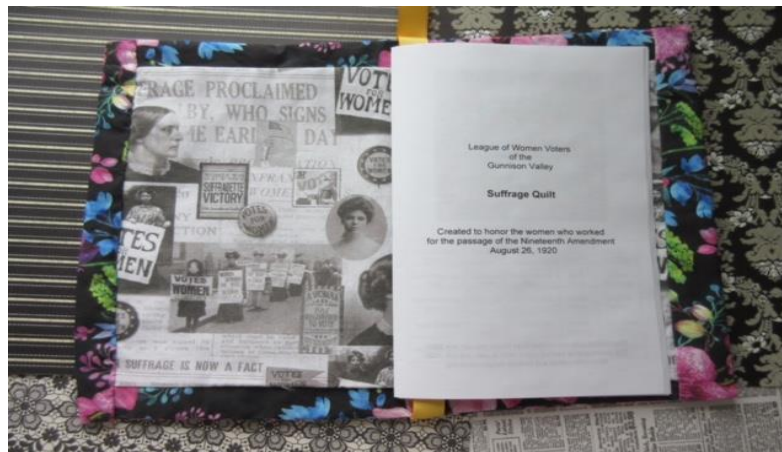
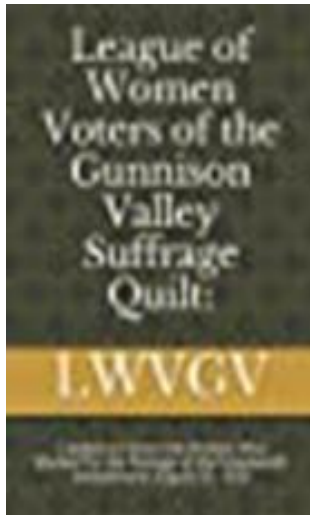
Suffragists names are hand embroidered by LWVGCV members. The quilt comes with two matching Suffrage books – one printed in soft cover and one specially covered in fabric to match the quilt.



LWVGCV is asking for a \$500 minimum donation toward our work in Gunnison County of empowering voters and defending democracy. All donations go toward printing costs at election time and other organizational expenses.

If interested, please email lwvgunnison@gmail.com or leave word with us through our website: <https://lwvgunnison.org/>

Hard copies and ecopy of the book are available at local museums and on Amazon as linked on our website.



Reminders:

- Contact organizing@lww.org with any questions, comments or feedback!
- Register:
 - **June 29th** Next Monthly Community Call at 5 pm ET
 - OutreachCircle Demo **Every Friday and Saturday at 4 pm ET**
- Check out the [Organizing Resource Page](#) for registration links and more!

