

The
OTER

VOLUME 44 NUMBER 1

January 2005

Calendar (League activities in bold)

January 2005

Happy New Year!

- 5 W 7:30 p.m. **LWVCC Board Meeting**
Home of Anne Maiese
- 15 Sa 1 - 3 p.m. **Moderator Training**
Call Lisa at 609-239-4947 for information.
- 18 Tu 6:00 p.m. County Freeholder Caucus
16th floor, Camden Co. Courthouse, Camden
- 20 Th 7:00 p.m. County Freeholder Meeting
Merchantville Community Center
212 Somerset Avenue

February 2005

- 2 W 7:30 p.m. **LWVCC Board Meeting**
Zena Cohen's house
- 15 Tu 6:00 p.m. County Freeholder Caucus
16th floor, Camden Co. Courthouse, Camden
- 16 W 10:00 a.m. **Voter Registration**
After the naturalization ceremony, Federal
Courthouse, Camden.
- 17 Th 7:30 p.m. **Public Meeting -- Civil Liberties**
Grayson Barber from the ACLU. Vogelson
(Voorhees) Library. See page 3.
- 17 Th 7:00 p.m. County Freeholder Meeting
Wayne Bryant Community Center, Lawnside.

March 2005

- 2 W 7:30 p.m. **LWVCC Board Meeting**
Marcy Susman's house
- =====

On Dec 1, 2004 the LWVCC board:

1. Appointed Barbara Sielaff and Ann Saunders to the Budget Committee.
2. Appointed Phyllis Black and Rosemary Leach to the Nominating Committee.
3. Appointed Deborah Berkowitz, Bobbie Porter, and Ed Gracely to be the Audit Committee.

At its January 5, 2005 regular meeting, the LWVCC board:

1. Voted to use money from the Grace Lemley Memorial Fund to support *Running & Winning*.
2. Decided to purchase 200 NJ Citizen's Guides, to be distributed at *Running & Winning*, and sold elsewhere at the same rate as last year.
3. Approved the program planning report prepared by Anne Maiese.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CAMDEN COUNTY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

To me, January is more of a half-way point in the school year or the League year than it is the beginning of a new year, but I *do* have to get new calendars and write 2005 on my checks, so "Happy New Year!"

Our Holiday Party and Program Planning Meeting on December 1, 2004 had a great turnout. Thanks to Bobbie Porter, who opened her home to our larger-than-usual group, and to the board members, who provided a delightful buffet. Thanks to all who came—your informed opinions make "grassroots organization" true—and to Ed Gracely, for presenting an analysis of our position on dedication of taxes. We approved that and most of the other state positions, although we recommended an update on charter schools. After considering all the Leagues' recommendations, the LWVNJ board will recommend items for update or study to delegates to the state convention in May.

What are we up to now? Our upcoming projects include publishing and distributing our *2005 Camden County Citizens' Guide*, selling the *2005 New Jersey Citizen Guide* (the order form is on p. 5), and preparing for the school board candidates forums we moderate in the spring. Lisa Castellani and Ed Gracely will hold moderator training on Saturday, January 15, 2005, from 1 - 3 p.m. If you are interested, please call or email either Lisa or Ed. Although we do need a few more people who are willing to moderate, there is no obligation to do so after training.

On Thursday, February 17, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at the Camden County Library in Voorhees, we will examine the USA Patriot Act and the "war on terrorism." Our speaker, Grayson Barber, is a First Amendment litigator and privacy advocate with a practice in Princeton, New Jersey, and a member of the National ACLU Board. She will ask whether the federal government's initiatives are keeping us safe and free and outline the trends toward government in secret, suppression of dissent, and racial profiling. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to come hear our expert speaker. More info on p 3.

Looking even farther ahead, our *Running & Winning* Workshop will be held at Overbrook High School on Wednesday, April 13, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This workshop introduces high school girls to local female elected officials and the process of running for office. We need volunteers before and during the workshop, so if this appeals to you, please give me a call.

Resolved to "hang in there,"

Anne

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization of men and women that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters of Camden County, LWVCC Voice Mail Line: (856) 795-7878

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***The VOTER* is published ten times a year to keep the membership and public informed of the activities of the League of Women Voters of Camden County. For subscription or membership information call (856) 795-7878.**

Getting there - Directions!

Camden County Courthouse: Take 676 north to Mickle Blvd. Flow right at the fork (don't go on Campbell Place), then turn right onto 5th street in a few blocks. The courthouse is at 5th and Federal, a block up from Mickle.

Camden, Federal Courthouse: 4th and Cooper, but we generally car pool. Call 856-795-7878 if you're interested. *About 3-4 blocks from the City Hall PATCO station.*

Lawnside: Wayne Bryant Community Center: 323 Charleston Ave, Lawnside. Charleston is off Route 30 (White Horse Pike) about a mile below 295. Coming south, turn left onto Charleston, continue past a tiny jog at Warwick for another half mile or so.

Merchantville, Community Center 212 Somerset Ave. Looking at the map provided by the County (via a link) looks like Chapel Ave to Maple Ave east for 3 block to Clifton = Prospect. Turn right and make a left onto Somerset after a long block on Prospect. The building is right there.

Voorhees: Vogelson Regional Library: Driving south on 30, turn left onto Somerdale Road, just above the Echelon Mall. Go under the train bridge in about a half mile, then turn right onto Burnt Mill. Soon turn left onto Laurel Road. The library is on your right. Burnt Mill Road also crosses 544 (Evesham Road) north of the library and White Horse Road (an extension of Springdale) south of it. If you know where the Echelon Mall is, you're home!

Patriot Act" Speaker All Welcome

When: Thursday, February 17, at 7:30

Where: Main Camden County library, Vogelson (Voorhees). Directions to the left.

What: Our speaker, Grayson Barber, will talk about the USA Patriot Act and the "War on Terrorism," asking whether the federal government's initiatives are keeping us safe and free. She will discuss the trends toward government in secret, suppression of dissent, and racial profiling.

Who: Grayson Barber is a First Amendment litigator and privacy advocate with a solo practice in Princeton, New Jersey. She is a member of the New Jersey Privacy Study Commission and a lecturer at Princeton University. She sits on the board of the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey (ACLU-NJ) and the National ACLU board.

Why: League members have had a strong interest in civil liberties for many years, and we have expressed serious concerns about the laws passed since 9/11. Come learn more about the issues from the perspective of the preeminent civil rights organization in this country -- the ACLU.

\$\$ CALLATHON 2005 \$\$

is here!

Please respond promptly

The LWVNJ depends on contributions from members. And the LWVCC board calls anyone who hasn't contributed in response to the mailing. Please help the LWVNJ and save your board extra calls – send in your contribution!



Running & Winning 2005

As Anne mentioned in her President's message, the successful and popular *Running & Winning* program is returning for another year. This year the event will take place further south than usual, at Overbrook High School. Students from both Overbrook and Winslow High will be invited.

We anticipate collaboration with our usual partners (details being developed at this time), and can certainly use help. Specifically, help is needed in:

1. Planning the event.
2. Helping run the event on Wednesday, April 13.

If you are interested in either of these roles (or both!) please call Phyllis Black at 856-428-1247.

Moderator Training, Please Join Us

Moderating forums is the quintessential role for a League member. Indeed, for much of the public, it is the *only* thing they see League members doing! It's a great skill to have, and helps you develop confidence in front of a group of people. You aren't doing much of the talking, and you aren't the one on the spot, so in some ways it's easier than many speaking roles. But moderating can be challenging, so we offer training to anyone interested in doing it.

Note that being trained does **not** mean you are expected to moderate. That decision is always up to you.

Lisa Castellani and Ed Gracely are long-time moderators. Lisa is also the coordinator for moderating in Camden County. They will provide training to interested individuals on Saturday, January 15, from 1-3. The session will be interactive and interesting.

If you're interested call either Lisa (609-239-4947) or Ed (856-629-2869). We do need to know who's coming, in case we have to arrange more space, or in case the session needs to be cancelled due to bad weather. So, let us know a.s.a.p. if you'd like to acquire a new skill!

**2005 Edition of NJ CITIZENS GUIDE TO GOVERNMENT
Will be Available Soon
Place your Order Now!**

The 2005 edition of the *New Jersey Citizens Guide to Government* is coming soon. As an information resource this guidebook is invaluable.

The *Guide* is filled with information about registration and voting procedures, political parties, county, state, and local government, the New Jersey courts, and legislative districts. It lists state administrators and the names, addresses, and telephone and fax numbers of the New Jersey congressional delegation and all state legislators. The *Citizens Guide* explains how to address elected officials and provides tips on communicating with them. It also lists resources to contact about legislation and provides an election/registration calendar

The price is \$4.25 each if purchased directly from a League member, or \$5.00 to have it mailed. For orders of 10 or more, the price per copy is \$4.00, and we will arrange for delivery.

Why not buy copies for friends, family, co-workers?

They make excellent gifts for teachers.

Civic groups and social agencies find them useful.

Part of the purchase price benefits the League of Women Voters of Camden County.

To place your order, you can call the League Line, 856-795-7878 or **send the form below** to League of Women Voters of Camden County, Box 245, Voorhees, NJ 08043.

Make your check payable to **LWVCC**.

2005 NJ CITIZENS GUIDE TO GOVERNMENT

Name _____ Quantity _____

Address _____ Amount Paid _____

Phone # _____

League of Women Voters of Camden County, Box 245, Voorhees, NJ 08043

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