



The

# VOTER

VOLUME 48 NUMBER 4

April 2009

## Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
<i>Running &amp; Winning</i>	Apr 21	Tu	Morning	Sterling High School, Somerdale
<b>LWVNJ State Convention</b>	May 2	Sa	All day	New Brunswick
<b>LWVCC Board Meeting</b>	May 6	W	7 p.m.	Vogelson Library, Voorhees
Freeholder caucus	May 19	Tu	6 p.m.	16th Floor Courthouse, Camden
Freeholder meeting	May 21	Th	7 p.m.	Waterford Municipal Building
<b>LWVCC Annual Meeting</b>	May 23	Sa	~12-3	Catelli's Ristorante, Voorhees

### Voter Highlights

2. [President's Message](#)
3. [Directions](#)
3. [Board report](#)
4. [From the LWVUS](#)
5. [Water and Women](#)
5. [In memoriam - Onalie Leshner](#)

**Correction:** The picture caption last month that named Barbara Belasco as a leader of the Alternative Energy Workshop should said Barbara Greer instead.

### LWVCC Annual Meeting!

May 23, at Catelli's Ristorante.

Time TBA, probably from noon till around 3. Watch for a formal flier.

We have a speaker on the stimulus package and its effect on education. Of course we will discuss the LWVCC budget, nominating committee report, and achievements in the past year.

Good food. Good company. Hope to see YOU!

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CAMDEN COUNTY

[Back to list](#)

## President's Message to the board:

Our League year is coming to a close and we are preparing for our year-end Annual Luncheon that is scheduled to be held at Catelli's restaurant in Voorhees. I will not be running for President for a third term and therefore the Nominating Committee is asking League members for recommendations of other members that could be considered for president. We can also use some fresh faces on the board. Of course, you can nominate yourself, if you're interested!

This has been a very challenging and rewarding four years for me. The board of The Camden County League of Women Voters is one of the best in the state of New Jersey. When I became President, I had been a League member less than a year when I assumed the challenge and leadership of the presidency. Several times I questioned my ability to perform effectively in this capacity because sometimes I did not

*"I will not be running for President for a third term . . . This has been a very challenging and rewarding four years for me. The board of The Camden County League of Women Voters is one of the best in the state of New Jersey. . . . Words cannot express my deep gratitude for all the support that I have received these last four years "*

feel I knew enough. Each time, the board was reassuring; reaffirming my ability to perform in this capacity even though my League experience was limited. The League is a complex and established organization with a well defined statement of purpose. The board immediately began its role of

mentor as they offered the support and advice that would provide the direction necessary to address the many complex issues of League business.

Words cannot express my deep gratitude for all the support that I have received these last four years from the board of The Camden County League of Women Voters. Thank You.

Ann Saunders,  
President

---

**The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization of men and women, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.**

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

President: Ann Saunders      (856) 232-1041      Voter Editor: Ed Gracely      (856) 629-2869  
 1st Vice President: Lisa Castellani      (609) 239-4947      Voter Distributor: Barbara Sielaff  
 2nd Vice President: Phyllis Black      (856) 428-1247

e-mail: [lwvcc@hotmail.com](mailto:lwvcc@hotmail.com)



Visit our web site: <http://www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty>

**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.

## Board Report

[Back to list](#)

### At its April 8 meeting, the LWVCC board:

1. Heard Nominating and Budget reports. Agreed to operate by Executive Committee if no-one steps up to be president by the new fiscal year (July 1).
2. Decided to e-mail the members to solicit interest in joining the board. We need to build our leadership base and get some new board members.
3. Participated in a consensus on the National Popular Vote Compact.



## 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.*

**Cherry Hill Library:** On King's Highway, coming from Haddonfield, cross Route 70. The library is a half mile or so ahead, on your left. Before Chapel Ave.

**Voorhees - Catelli Ristorante:** Plaza 1000, Main Street Complex, Voorhees. Take Springdale Road south to Kresson. Turn left there. After 1.5 miles on Kresson, pass the light at Evesham, then turn right through the flagpoles into the complex. The restaurant is directly ahead of you. // From the south, take 73 to Kresson for 1.3 miles. Just after the light at Centennial, turn left into the complex. I didn't see a sign to it. Looks like the entrance to a church or synagogue. But it takes you through to the complex.

**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!

**Waterford Municipal Building** 2131 Auburn Ave. Take Route 30 (White Horse Pike) south past Berlin. You can also get onto the WHP just south of Berlin from 73. A bit more than a mile below the 73 connection on the WHP, pass Atco Ave (big street) then School House. The next left is Auburn. The building is in 1.5 blocks. *The 554 bus runs from Lindenwald PATCO down Route 30.*

**From the LWVUS****2010 CENSUS A VITAL CIVIC COUNT OF ALL AMERICANS**  
*League of Women Voters is 2010 Census National Partner*

**Washington, DC** – The League of Women Voters today (April 1) announced its role as a national partner in the 2010 U.S. Census. The decennial count takes place one year from today.

"The 2010 Census is an enormously important government effort that sets out to count all Americans," said Mary G Wilson, national President of the League of Women Voters. "The League is joining this effort as a national partner to enable our local, grassroots members to help achieve this goal."

"We join with the U.S. Census Bureau and other organizations in emphasizing the importance of every single resident being counted in the community in which they live," Wilson stated. "Many Americans may not be aware of how important Census data is to almost every aspect of their lives. This data is used as the basis for most federal funding to states and communities as well as for determining the number of representatives to the U.S. House of Representatives and to state legislatures. Since Leagues around the country are well-known and trusted sources of civic information, they can play an important role in educating the public that the 2010 Census is important, easy, and fair."

"Our goal is to work with others to eliminate the 'undercount' that occurs, particularly within low income and minority populations," said Wilson. "We have been fighting to protect the rights of underrepresented communities in many arenas including voting and elections, and immigration and health care reforms. The Census influences so many public policy decisions, we all must do our part to see that it is as accurate and inclusive as it can be."

"Officials have worked hard to plan this Census, but they cannot reach into every community without the help of grassroots organizations like the League," Wilson said. "It is our hope that thousands of League members nationwide will do our part to make the Census a success, by helping Americans reach a comfort level with the process and a willingness to participate in this important civic process. Our approach to the Census is similar to that of voting - We want everyone to count!"

**[NEWS: Senators Urged to Support Strong Health Care Legislation](#)**

As Congress starts work on health care reform legislation, the League voiced the following specific concerns to the Senate: (1) legislation must guarantee quality, affordable health care to all U.S. residents, including the prevention of disease, health promotion and education, primary, acute and long-term care, mental health care, and prescription drug coverage as well as allow for pre-existing conditions; (2) it must establish a system-wide program to coordinate information, establish best practices and provide consumers the information they need to protect themselves and their families; and (3) it must provide effective cost controls, equitable distribution of services and allow for efficient and economical delivery of care.

## Water and Women

On Saturday, April 4, 2009, I attended the Philadelphia Global Water Institute's Annual Meeting. The topic this year was water and sanitation. Our League is a member of the UN Association of Greater Philadelphia, which co-sponsored the event.

Here are a few things I learned that are likely to be of interest to League members:

- Lack of access to clean, sanitary, and private, lavatory facilities in schools is a significant barrier to female education in the third world. Girls are more concerned about privacy and sanitation than boys, and may stop attending school if required to use unsuitable facilities.
- Waterborne illnesses indirectly undermine female education as well, because girls are the usual family caretakers when someone else is ill.
- Increasing decision-making power for women in a community is an important part of ensuring that sanitation systems are maintained in a sustainable way.
- Although (as we know) tap water is generally at least as clean and pure as bottled water, maybe more, there was a threatened lawsuit by a bottled water

company against a campaign to get people to drink it. Although nothing much came of it, this is a scary tactic! Hopefully there will not be any such lawsuits as many cities are promoting use of tap water.

*Ed G*

## In memoriam

We report with sadness the passing of Onalie Leshner on February 1, 2009. Onnie's legacy was far reaching. She was past president of LWVCC. She worked on voting, solid waste, and the environment. She was editor of the League's publication, Know Your County. Her position on the board was county government and she attended all freeholder meetings. She moderated political debates on cable television. Along with Susan McNaughton, she championed the petition drive to change the county government form to make it more representational to its citizens. Her impact on Camden County was substantial. We will miss her dignity, her determination, and her "can do" spirit. *Renée Robbins*

## National Popular Vote Compact

The LWVCC did its consensus on this issue at the end of the April 8 board meeting. We decided to recommend to National against supporting the idea. It's complicated, runs the risk of legal confusion, and could mean that all of a state's electoral votes went to a candidate most of the state's residents reject. So we don't like it. As was true for many other Leagues, we also didn't like the consensus questions, which we found needlessly convoluted and leading. It will be a challenge for the LWVUS committee reviewing these consensus responses to figure out what to do with them! Of course, we will not take any action based on our local decision. It is simply input to the LWVUS. Since New Jersey has already signed onto the compact, there wouldn't be much cause for action here anyway!

If You Are Interested In:

- *Learning about government and the political process.*
- *Getting involved in the political process in nonpartisan ways.*
- *Meeting and working with other citizens who care about good government.*



**Join the League Of Women Voters of Camden County**

**Call 856-795-7878 or send this form to: PO Box 245, Voorhees, NJ 08043**

-----  
Annual membership is \$55 (\$82.50 for household membership). To join, or for more information, send this form or call the number above.

I want to become a member of the LWV of Camden County: \_\_\_\_\_ (Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_)

Please send me information on membership in the LWV of Camden County \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Please include area code)

The



**OTER**

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

Non-Profit Organization US Postage PAID Permit NO 399 Haddonfield NJ 08033
---

Time Value