



The VOTER

VOLUME 49 NUMBER 5

May 2010

Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
LWVCC Board meeting	June 2	W	7 p.m.	Vogelson Library, Voorhees
Primary Election Day	June 8	Tu	6 a.m. to 8 p.m.	VOTE!
Free members brunch	June 27	Sun	TBA	The Coastline. Only paid up members are invited!
Voter registration	July 20	Tu	10 a.m.	After the naturalization ceremony, 401 Market St., Camden.

Voter Contents

Page	Topic
2 --	Co-President's Message
3 --	Board Report
3 --	Directions
3 --	LWVUS Action
4 --	Redistricting
5 --	LWVNJ raffle

Have you renewed your membership?

Membership renewals went out in April. Please don't put off sending in your check. We need to update our membership list, and we want you on it! Don't make us bug you... renew now!

A renewal form is online at:

http://www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty/Membership_renewal_form_2010.pdf

League of Women Voters of Camden County

Co-Presidents' Message:



Hello Fellow Members,

After a super-active April---promoting the Census, organizing a very successful Running & Winning workshop, and enjoying our annual meeting, at which both mind and body were fed---The League is using May to take a deep breath and to plan for the balance of this year and for our Kick-off event at the start of our new year in September.

We hope you have all received our membership renewal letter and have responded by renewing your membership because we are especially excited about our plans for a **free, paid-up membership brunch** to be held on Sunday, June 27th. This will be an opportunity to meet fellow members, to offer suggestions, and to plan for next year. So do save the date!

Winnefred Rowell-Bullard
Harriet Snyder
Co-presidents

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
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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 May 12 meeting, the LWVCC board:

1. Divided up the membership list in order to call and remind them to renew.
2. Decided on a free brunch at the Coastline, June 27, for paid up members only.
3. Agreed to pay up to \$1,000 each to cover convention costs for the co-presidents. Harriet will represent this League, whereas Winne will represent Burlington County.
4. Moved the covered dish board orientation meeting to August. The June board meeting will be a regular meeting.



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.*

Coastline, Cherry Hill: The Coastline is on Brace Road, about half a mile north of Kresson Ave., and about half a mile south of the King's Highway/Route 70 intersection.

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!

LWVUS ACTION ALERT

Action Alert: Tell Congress to Protect the 2010 Elections (NEW)

Earlier this year, the Supreme Court handed down a far-reaching decision that allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited advertising funds in candidate elections. The practical effect of the Citizens United v. FEC decision is that such unlimited spending can be done in secret. Click [here](#): Tell your members of Congress to support the DISCLOSE Act! Or use <http://lists.lwv.org/t/979255/5237913/1459/0/>

From the LWVUS : Redistricting

Now that the census is nearing completion, the next important issue will be redistricting. The League and numerous other organizations are working together to develop principles that will guide that redistricting in 2011. The following is from the LWVUS web site:

"From July 22-24, the **Pocantico Conference Center in Tarrytown, NY**, with the generous support of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the Joyce Foundation, and the Ford Foundation, played host to a conference on *'Developing an Action Agenda for Redistricting in 2011,'* convened by the League of Women Voters of the United States and the Campaign Legal Center."

"The individuals and groups invited to the Pocantico Conference share a view that redistricting too often has been deeply flawed and too often has made a mockery of our nation's ideal of a truly representative democracy. There was a shared recognition that control of the process usually lies with incumbent legislators who treat voters like pawns in political power games. Political gerrymandering can result in diluting political power of racial, ethnic and political minorities, and in undermining the "representativeness" of representative bodies. In too many cases, this fundamental disconnect removes the accountability of elected officials from the governance equation."

"Participants did not, however, necessarily share the same opinions on how best to resolve these problems. The purpose of the Pocantico Conference was to open a constructive dialogue among like-minded groups with shared goals who do not always agree on the best way to achieve those goals."

The statement below was agreed upon by attendees (including the LWVUS):

STATEMENT ON ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES ON REDISTRICTING

as formulated at
Pocantico Redistricting Conference
July 2009

The essential principles are:

- An accurate and complete count in Census 2010 is an essential building block for all redistricting efforts.
- The process used for redistricting must be transparent to the public.
- The redistricting process, at all levels of government, must provide data, tools and opportunities for the public to have direct input into the specific plans under consideration by the redistricting body.
- In order to achieve representative democracy, redistricting plans must be drawn in a manner that allows elected bodies to reflect the diversity of the populace, especially racial and ethnic diversity.

You can read the complete report here:

<http://www.lwv.org/Content/ContentGroups/Organizational/PocanticoRedistrictingConferenceReportFINAL.pdf>



[Back to contents](#)

From the LWVNJ

LWVNJ Raffle



The League of Women Voters of New Jersey Education Fund is raffling off a chance to win a vacation package of your choosing valued up to \$3,000.

Tickets are just \$10 each and we are only selling 2,000 tickets.
Tickets are on sale as of May 10, 2010 and will sell fast so get yours today!

To purchase your tickets, please make check payable to:
LWVNJ-EF
and mail to:

**LWVNJ-EF Raffle
204 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608**

Please specify the **number of raffle tickets** you are purchasing (\$10 each)
and your
Name, Address, Phone Number and email address,
so we may contact you if you win the drawing.
Once your check is received, your ticket(s) will be mailed to you.

GOOD LUCK and Thank You!!!

Raffle tickets are \$10 each for the chance to win a vacation package valued up to \$3,000. Proceeds benefit the League of Women Voters of New Jersey Education Fund's efforts to educate the public and promote civic education. The drawing will take place July 14, 2010, 12 noon, at 204 West State Street, Trenton, NJ. No one under the age of 18 years is permitted to participate. If gambling is a problem for you or someone in your family, Dial 1-800-GAMBLER.

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 \$60 (plus \$30 for each additional 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



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League of Women Voters of Camden County
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Voorhees, NJ 08043