



The VOTER

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 9

October 2011

Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
General Election	Nov 8	Tu	6 am - 8 pm	Your local polling place.
Voter Registration	Nov 17	Th	10 a.m.	After the naturalization ceremony, 401 Market St., Camden. Contact the League if you are interested in helping.
Program Planning/ Holiday Party	Dec 7	W	6 - 9 p.m.	Bobbie Porter's house. Please let us know if you are coming -- the location may change. Also check the web site.

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Board Report

At its Oct 13, 2011 meeting, the LWVCC board:

1. Discussed plans for the program planning meeting.
2. Assigned rotating responsibility for board members to develop an agenda and chair upcoming meetings (Nov: Harriet, Dec: Ed, Jan: Winne). The individual doing that will also write the Board Message for the Voter.
3. Decided not to participate in the LWVUS Education Consensus due to lack of a committee and the complexity of the questions.

League of Women Voters of Camden County

Board Message:



Dear Members,

At the October Meeting of the Board(LWVCC) it was reported that the League had sponsored two Voter registration events. One was held at the Cherry Hill Mall and was successful in registering a number of new voters. The other event was held at the Federal Court House after the swearing-in ceremony for nearly 40 new Americans. I am proud to say they all were eager to register to vote. The Cherry Hill Mall event included members of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority (South Jersey Alumni) as well as members from the League. Bobbi Porter organized the new citizen event at the Court House. September was the month designated by the LWVNJ as voter registration month.

Another event in which League members participated was a meeting at the Cherry Hill Library on Poverty. This included discussion of some of the organizations already working with those in need. This is an ongoing problem which needs volunteer help and money. See the story with pictures on [page 4](#).

It was decided by the Board that our League would not participate in the Consensus about the Federal Role in Education. It was decided that we did not have enough information to make an informed decision.

Sally Thorne,

Board member

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

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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.*

Runnemedede: Harry Williams Building. At the corner of Broadway and the Black Horse Pike (Route 168). Take 295 to Route 168 south. Pass the turnpike entrance. Just below it is Broadway. Look for the building around there.

Voorhees: Vogelson Regional Library: Driving south on 30, turn left onto Somerdale Road (gas station with red horizontal stripes on your left, Cunningham's Cleaners on the right), just above the Echelon Mall. Go under the train bridge in about a half mile, then turn right onto Burnt Mill (at the light). Soon turn left onto Laurel Road at a light. (There is a kind of small park with grass and trees on your left just before the turn and a flower-decorated median on Laurel itself). The library is on your right as you pass the mall. 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!



Hold the Date!
 LWVCC Annual Holiday Party
 &
 Program Planning Meeting
 Dec 7, 2011
 6 p.m. -- networking
 7 p.m. -- planning!





Ed,

The League of Women Voters has been buzzing with excitement. **The countdown to Election Day 2011 is on.**

As with each election during our 91 year history, the League is doing everything we can to be sure that every eligible voter votes **on November 8th.**

We have been busy in communities and neighborhoods registering voters and ramping up our education efforts to ensure that voters are informed about the candidates and issues, and prepared to cast their ballots. As you get ready to vote, visit www.VOTE411.org, the League's "one-stop-shop" for election information.



From registering new voters ... to giving Americans the facts about the issues ... the League of Women Voters has the plan, the expertise, and the nationwide grassroots network to put political power back in the hands of the people.

The last piece of the puzzle is up to you.

Get informed. Go vote on November 8. And make sure you [spread the word to your family and friends](#) about the importance of this election. **Your neighbors will be showing up to decide the future of your community, you should be too.**

Thanks, and don't forget to vote on November 8!

Sincerely,

Elisabeth MacNamara
Chair, LWVEF

P.S. Visit us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to tell us how you are getting involved and participating in the upcoming elections.

Fighting Poverty: What you can do about it.

Notes from the Oct 5 meeting

A full room of League and non-League attendees came out to hear our panel of speakers on local poverty issues.



Keynote speaker **Zane Kratzer** provided a lot of interesting statistics on poverty in the area. Perhaps the most striking is that *twice* the federal poverty level for a family of 3 is \$34,692, but the *real* cost of living in Camden County is \$45,883 for the same family, and even more in northern parts of the state. So making twice the federal poverty level isn't really enough to get by. Imagine living at or below the poverty level!



Housing advocate **Kevin Walsh** from the Fair Share Housing Development Center pointed out the lack of starter homes. He commented that building more low income housing wouldn't cost government anything -- there are low income housing developers eager to do the job. They just need the local governments to stop blocking new housing with zoning rules and other restrictions.



Ujwala Samant, from the Food Bank of South Jersey noted that the food bank doesn't just hand out food -- it does a great deal of outreach as well. She urged attendees to call Congress and ask them not to cut food stamps.



Finally, **Carol Wolff** of the Camden Area Health Education Center spoke on health care needs. She noted the major disparities in access to health care based on income.

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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