



# The VOTER

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 10

November-December 2011

## Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
<b>Program Planning/ Holiday Party</b>	Dec 7	W	6 - 9 p.m.	<b>Bobbie Porter's house. Please let us know if you are coming -- the location may change. Also check the web site.</b>
<b>LWVCC Board Meeting</b>	Jan 4 2012	W	7 p.m.	Vogelson Library

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### Board Report

**At its Nov 2, 2011 meeting, the LWVCC board:**

1. Discussed plans for the program planning meeting.
2. Recognized donations on honor of several of our members (see page 4).
3. Approved draft letter to LWVUS on the Education Consensus (declining to participate).
4. Considered possibilities for spring meeting and Annual Meeting speakers/topics.
5. Made plans to finalize the Directory.
6. Discussed issues with forums and how to avoid them. We'll write a note we can send to people who approach us.

**League of Women Voters of Camden County**

## Board Message:



Hello Fellow Members,

Our moderating committee has been quite busy this election season presiding over several candidate forums: one for legislative candidates in Cape May County; two for legislative candidates in Burlington County; one for Surrogate and Freeholder candidates in Burlington County; and one for Washington Township mayoral candidates. Moderating is both a public service and a way for us to raise funds. Many thanks to Moderating Coordinator Barbara Sielaff and to moderators Donna Lawrence, Ed Gracely, and Winnefred Rowell-Bullard.

*Our moderating committee has been quite busy this election season. . .*

Also hard at work is the Running & Winning committee, which already has already locked in a school—Cherry Hill High School East—and a date—April 4th. If you're interested in working with them, the next planning meeting is Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> (Call 856-779-1298 for details).

SAVE THE DATE—Wednesday, December 7th-- for our Holiday Party/Program Planning meeting. We hope you—and your covered dish—will join us for a combination of eating delicious food, socializing, networking, and reviewing League positions ( Please note the details elsewhere in this Voter.) Thanks to Ed Gracely's efforts, we plan to have our updated Member Directory ready to distribute at this meeting. We also urge you to bring ideas for topics and speakers for both our March meeting and our annual meeting/luncheon, in May.

*Also hard at work is the Running & Winning committee, .... If you're interested in working with them, the next planning meeting is Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> (Call 856-779-1298 for details).*

Finally, we are gratified that some members have been moved to contribute to the League in honor of, or in memory of, those they admire. To all the donors, we offer our deep thanks. (A list of recent donations appears on page 4 in this Voter. )

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Harriet Snyder

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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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## 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.*

**Runnemede:** 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!



## Holiday Party and Program Planning!

LWVCC Annual Holiday Party  
&

Program Planning Meeting

Dec 7, 2011

6 p.m. -- networking

7 p.m. -- planning!



**Thank you, thank you!**  
**To the donors to the LWVCC since June 2011**

Anne and Mario Maiese  
Dotty Dunfee  
Pauline Kohl  
Estate of Helen Libbey  
William Skinner & Lori Volpe  
Donna Lawrence -- In memory of Helen Libby  
Bobbie & Joel Porter (several times):  
    In memory of Helen Libby  
    In honor of Winnefred Rowell-Bullard's award as Educator of the Year  
    In honor of Joan Wells' service to the League in voter registration  
    In memory of Martha Kaplan's brother and sister-in-law

**Gracias!**

**谢谢**

**Merci**

**Danke!**

**Thank you!**

**σας ευχαριστώ**

**спасибо**

## LWVUS Program Planning

The year at our annual holiday program planning party, we'll be doing LWVUS program planning.

### So what is program planning?

Well, every other year, in the spring at Convention, the LWVUS decides on its program for the upcoming two years. The national League supports a variety of public policy positions. These are listed in the membership directory, as well as on the LWVUS web site. Some examples to give you a flavor:

**Voting Rights** (1982, updated Convention 2006) Protect the right of every citizen to vote; encourage all citizens to vote. Support only voting systems with an auditable, voter-verifiable, paper record of the vote.

**Campaign Finance** (1982): Improve methods of financing political campaigns to ensure the public's right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably, and maximize citizen participation.

**United Nations** (2002) Support measures to strengthen the United Nations. Support active participation by the U.S. in the UN, without conditions and with substantial, appropriate financial support.

**Environmental Protection and Pollution Control** (sometime in the 1970's) Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment. The Federal government should set major standards. Other levels of government should have the right to set stricter standards.

At our local Program Planning meeting we review the list, suggest ones that may be outdated and need review, others we would drop entirely (rare), and possibly new topics suitable for study.

New positions like those in the list can only be adopted after study and consensus at the national level, through one of several mechanisms. The most common mechanism is for a number of Leagues to promote the topic during program planning and for the Convention delegates to agree that a study is merited.

Our League is one part of this larger process. We need input from as many of our members as possible.

The process we have adopted as of a few years ago is for our members to break into several smaller groups to each discuss an assigned chunk of the list of positions. This division of the list allows a smaller number of individuals to discuss each chunk, and to focus on a smaller part of the whole list. Otherwise there are too many people and too many topics to handle as a whole group!

The subcommittees report back to the whole group on their recommendations, which then need to be fitted to the format that LWVUS requested. For example, the LWVUS may require each League to provide a detailed rationale for that study. Leagues that don't follow the rules may have their input discounted, so it is important that we do what we are asked.

The process is interesting, the results are important, and we hope to see you there!

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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