



The  
**VOTER**

VOLUME 51 NUMBER 8

September 2012

**Calendar (League activities in bold)**

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
<b>Voter Registration</b>	Sept 18	Tu	10 a.m.	After the naturalization ceremony, 401 Market St., Camden. Contact the League at lwvcc@hotmail.com or call 856-795-7878 if you are interested in helping register.
<b>LWVNJ Fall Workshops</b>	Sept 22	Sa	Morning to early afternoon	PSE&G Training Center, 234 Pierson Ave, Edison, NJ. Forum on campaign finance reform, specifically Citizens United. Afternoon workshops on policy. Moderator training and some additional skill building workshops as well. All welcome (there is a charge)
<b>Voter Registration</b>	Sept 26	W	10-2	Blackwood, Camden County College. Let us know if you'd like to help (see above).
<b>LWVCC Board Meeting</b>	Oct 3	W	7-9 pm	Vogelson Library, Voorhees

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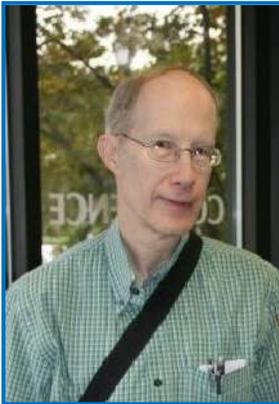
**Board Report**

At its Sept 12, 2012 meeting, the LWVCC board:

1. Developed our fall voter registration plans.
2. Completed Kickoff preparations.
3. Followed up on Citizens Guides distributions.
4. Began thinking of a topic for a spring speaker or panel -- perhaps on advertising in the schools.

**League of Women Voters of Camden County**

## Board Message:



Dear League members:

Welcome to the first Voter of the fall. And an interesting fall it promises to be! Presidential politics alone will occupy much of the time of League "politics junkies".

As for the Camden County League League, we just had our annual **Kickoff**. It was good to see 15 members, friends, and guests there. Our first video was an award-winning student creation on the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, done by Madeline Bowne when she was an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at Carusi Middle School in Cherry Hill. You can see an interview with Madeline [here](#), and see her video itself [here](#). Madeline and her family joined us and she answered questions after the video. An impressive young lady!

Then we saw the enjoyable women's suffrage parody of Lady Gaga's "Bad romance". It's a very cleverly-done version, with a lead singer playing Alice Paul and numerous specific recognizable scenes from history. You can see the video [here](#). We heard from Loretta Lynch of the Burlington Count League about their very successful first-ever Running & Winning (based on the one developed in Camden County). They definitely plan to repeat the event! The kickoff was a success. We all enjoyed the videos, food, good companionship, and League spirit. Wish we'd seen a few more of you, however... Please plan to join us at future activities.

Yet to come are the LWNJ fall workshops, Saturday, September 22. Always interesting and worthwhile.

Meanwhile, the Camden County League is planning a number of voter registration events. One will be Wednesday September 26, at the Camden County College in Blackwood. Our regular voter registration after the naturalization ceremony will be this Tuesday, Sept 18. We'll be visiting Virtua Hospital in Camden on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Let us know if you are interested. The LWNJ encourages local Leagues to have activities close to its statewide registration weekend, September 29-30. But they don't have to be on that weekend exactly to earn our prize -- 50 NJ Citizens Guides!

Yours in League

Ed Gracely, Board member

### Special thanks to our recent donors:

Bill Skinner/Lori Volpe: \$100

Eloise Douglas: \$70

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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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*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.

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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.*

**Cherry Hill, Beneficial Bank 1901 Marlton Pike East.** Going north on Springdale (from Kresson towards 70) the bank is on your right just before 70 (one floor building, kind of reddish bottom part, steeply sloping black roof). Also easy to reach on 70 E (just \*past\* Springdale). You can't get there directly from Route 70 west. You'd have to turn at Springdale (go past it, see turnoff on the right).

**Edison: PSE&G training center:** The site is visible from Exit 10 of the NJ turnpike. So head north on the turnpike and get off there. After passing through the toll booth, bear right towards 514 West, Highland Park. Flow around the loop and merge onto Woodbridge Ave. In about 1.4 miles (at an Enterprise Rental car place, if it's still there) turn right onto Main Street (RT Lane and traffic light) for 0.6 miles. Go under the turnpike, and while passing a car dealership on your left, just before a red brick house on the right, turn right onto Morris (no traffic light). In 0.4 miles turn left at Pierson for 0.4 miles.

**Voorhees: Vogelson Regional Library:** Driving south on 30, turn left onto Somerdale Road just above the Voorhees Town Center. 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. The library is on your right as you pass the mall.

## Freeholder Meetings

We encourage League members to observe Freeholder meetings when they are convenient for you. Just show up with a LWV button to let them know we are watching! Don't make any statements -- you aren't entitled to speak for the League (or even yourself after wearing a League button). You can ask a neutral/informative question, however. Meetings start at 7. It's good for Camden County!

Sept 20: Lawnside  
 Oct 18: Pennsauken  
 Nov 15: Camden  
 Dec 20 Lindenwold

See <http://www.camdencounty.com/government/freeholder-meetings/2012-freeholder-meetings> for details.

**From the LWVNJ**

**2012 Fall Forum and Workshops  
Saturday Sept 22, 2012  
Edison NJ**



**Registration Fee due 9/12/12:**

Members: **\$30**; late - **\$35**

Nonmembers: **\$35**; late - **\$40**

Lunch: **\$10** — must be preordered

The registration fee includes workshop materials and a light breakfast.

There is too much information to include it all here -- you need to go online and review the list of workshops, so you can choose the ones of interest when you sign up.

Click [here](#) to access the League's Workshop page.

**From the LWVUS****Politicians Should Not Manipulate Voting Rights**

From the LWVUS, by Shirley (no last name provided)

Testifying Sept 12 before the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the continuing importance of the Voting Rights Act, Elisabeth MacNamara, president of the League of Women Voters of the United States, repeatedly underscored the importance of keeping our voting system free, fair and accessible to all eligible Americans. MacNamara pointed to the fact that since 2011 we have seen a huge increase in the number of new restrictive voting laws enacted at the state level. Such laws require restrictive forms of photo ID and/or proof of citizenship in order to vote, restrict independent voter registration drives, decrease early voting, wrongfully purge eligible voters and eliminate Election Day registration. The result is confusion for voters and poll workers alike.

In her [submitted testimony](#), MacNamara provided numerous examples of eligible voters who have been impacted by new state-level restrictions on the right to vote. From an elderly woman in Tennessee to a veteran in Wisconsin, keeping any eligible voters from participating in the process is undemocratic and un-American.

“What is especially disappointing is that politicians too often are imposing these restrictions on voting rights in order to manipulate the electorate for their own political gain. This is wrong. This is the real threat to the integrity of our elections,” she declared.

The importance of the judiciary in protecting our voting rights cannot be exaggerated. Federal and state courts have invalidated unfair voting laws that take away the right to vote from millions of eligible citizens. To its credit, the Department of Justice has applied the Voting Rights Act cautiously in challenging illegal schemes. It has pre-cleared less-restrictive photo ID requirements, while blocking the most restrictive.

MacNamara concluded by calling on the federal government to step in to ensure the rights of every eligible citizen to vote are protected if states are unable or unwilling to do so. These restrictive voting laws “are costly, unnecessary and undemocratic.”



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**

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 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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 P. O. Box 245  
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