



The VOTER

VOLUME 52 NUMBER 3

March 2013

Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
LWVCC Spring Meeting	Mar 27	W	7-9 pm	Ads in the schools. Cherry Hill Library. See flier page 4.
LWVCC Board Meeting	Apr 1	M	7-9 pm	Vogelson Library (confirmed)
LWVCC Annual Meeting	May 18	Sa	12-3	Speaker on Voter Rights and Suppression. Sure to be interesting!

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Board Report

At its March 6, 2013 Board meeting, the board:

1. Made plans for Annual Meeting and the Spring Meeting.
2. Discussed possible attendees at the LWVNJ convention in May.
3. Heard updates on Callathon (completed) and CamCo Citizens Guides (almost in press).
4. Accepted Myrna's offer to chair the April meeting.

League of Women Voters of Camden County

Board Message:



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Hi fellow League members,

Spring cometh! Our next board meeting is Monday, April 1. Don't be foolish; please come. Future board meetings will be the first Monday each month.

At our interesting spring meeting on Wednesday, March 27, at the Cherry Hill Library, we will discuss advertising in schools with Seth Klukoff, past president of the Cherry Hill Board of Education and current board member who will present reasons not to. Dr. Michael Etter, president of the Medford Board of Education and Dr. Joseph J. DelRossi Medford Township Superintendent of Schools will counter with the reasons that Medford just began to do so. See flier on page 4.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 18, noon, for our annual meeting at Caffè Aldo Lamberti's in Cherry Hill. Speaking on voter rights and suppression will be James Harris, president of NJ NAACP.

We look forward to our annual Running & Winning Event, this year on April 9 at Cherry Hill High School West. The topic is as current as Sandy: "Should rebuilding be allowed on barrier islands?"

New Jersey state convention will be May 3 and 4. Registration is \$95. The learning is priceless. This year it begins with a Gala on Friday evening to honor "Hurricane heroes" from last fall's election. (More details in the April Voter, and online at the LWVNJ web site (<http://www.lwvnj.org/>)). The Gala is a fundraiser and will have an additional charge. Sign up -- come celebrate statewide efforts to help people vote!

Next month's board meeting will be chaired by Myrna Schlanger. Come join her!

In League

Bobbie Porter

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.*

Cherry Hill Library: On King's Highway, coming north from Haddonfield, cross Route 70. In a few blocks pass the light at Miami Ave., then Tampa Ave (no light). The library is half a block ahead, on your left - a cathedral-like building with very large glass windows, orange brick walls, and a big grassy lawn. Parking is past the library.

CH Library, continued: Coming south on Kings Highway, from the 38/73 intersection, about half a mile below that pass the light at Church, and in a few blocks the light at Chapel, then one at Cheltenham Parkway. The library entrance is less than a tenth of a mile ahead, on your right (the library is past the parking entrance).

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.

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Nominating Committee Call for Board Members

I'm writing this on behalf of the board to make a strong appeal to our members. We **need** more people to step up and agree to serve on the board and to take on key tasks. Consider the following:

1. Harriet will not be treasurer forever. If she or her husband became ill and she could no longer do it, we have no one in training to replace her. Do you love Running & Winning? There will be **no Running & Winning** if we can't pay for it because we have no treasurer!
2. Barbara Sielaff, moderator coordinator, is stepping down. Do you value the League's role in running and coordinating forums? We need someone to take over that role.
3. The board is one loss away from being nearly unable to function in several other areas.

If you care about the League, we need you as leaders. Not just in a specific activity! On the board! Please say "yes" when the nominating committee calls. Or call us to volunteer!

The League of Women Voters of Camden County

invites you to our

Spring Meeting!

**Topic: Advertisements in schools and on school buses.
Our panel includes pro and con speakers.
Come learn about this timely issue!
Open to all**

Featuring:

Dr. Michael Etter

President, Medford BOE

Dr. Joseph J. DelRossi

Medford Township Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Seth Klukoff

BOE Member, Cherry Hill, former BOE President

March 27, 2013

7 - 9 p.m.

Half Conference Center

Cherry Hill Public Library

1100 Kings Highway N

Cherry Hill, NJ

League of Women Voters of Camden County

www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty

856-795-7878 (Voicemail)

From the LWVUS[Back to contents](#)

President MacNamara on the Voting Rights Act

The lawyer's lounge in the Supreme Court building is a soothing shade of green with high ceilings, large windows and portraits of obscure associate justices from centuries past staring down from the walls. As a general rule, members of the Supreme Court bar who can't find a seat in the actual courtroom can listen to oral arguments from the comfort of a sofa or armchair ranged along the walls of the lounge. Yesterday, listening to the oral argument in [Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder](#), it was standing room only.

By eight o'clock in the morning, I was already too late to secure a place in the courtroom, but I did get a seat in the lounge. While it was often difficult to distinguish which justice was speaking, it was a treat to watch the reaction of the lawyers in the room, many of whom, obviously, had some stake in the outcome of this case. When Justice Scalia made his now famous comment that the Voting Rights Act is a perpetuation of racial entitlement, the lawyers lounge momentarily erupted in disapproval.

The lawyers arguing the case were peppered with tough questions. Whatever arguments they had prepared were never really delivered as they responded to the justices who often took to addressing each other. Popular wisdom casts Justice Anthony Kennedy as the swing vote in this case and from where I sat, it is impossible to read anything in to Justice Kennedy's questions other than that he is struggling with the issues in this case.

Emerging from the Court building after the arguments, it was reassuring to see the number of people gathered to support the VRA, including many area members of the League of Women Voters. Speaking for a small podium at the foot of the courthouse steps, many speakers made sure the Court was aware of the significance of this law. When Barbara Zia, president of the South Carolina League and I had a chance to offer the League's experience over just the past year, we got a warm response.

We won't know the Court's decision for some time and it is vital that we keep this issue in the public eye. Whatever differences the justices may have, every member of the Court, except Justice Scalia, agreed that the VRA was one of the most significant pieces of legislation in American history and that the progress we have achieved in making voting free, fair and accessible to every eligible voter is attributable to its provisions. To paraphrase Justice Bryer, racial discrimination is an old disease that has been treated successfully by the VRA but has certainly not been cured. Continuing to administer Section 5 until a cure is achieved is required by justice, history and evidence. When a cure is finally accomplished is not a matter for the Court but for Congress.

[Please join the League in supporting the Voting Rights Act by pledging to protect and defend our right to vote.](#)

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
 P. O. Box 245
 Voorhees, NJ 08043