



The VOTER

VOLUME 55 NUMBER 8

September 2015

Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION/INFO
LWVCC Board Meeting	Oct 5	M	7-9	Vogelson Library, third floor, room B.
LWVNJ Fall workshops	Oct 10	Sa	9-2 or so	Good presentations, training and more! Page 5.
LWVCC Board meeting	Nov 2	M	7-8:45 pm	Vogelson Library, third floor, room B.
Election Day!	Nov 3	Tu	6 am-8pm	Your local polling place. Or vote by mail!
Voter registration	Nov 17	Tu	10 am	After the naturalization ceremony, Camden. Contact the League at lwvcc@hotmail.com or call 856-795-7878 if you are interested in helping register. We carpool to the building.

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Board Report Sept 9, 2015

The board:

1. Made plans to run our Kickoff on Sept 26.
2. Discussed membership renewals.
3. Organized plans for a fall voter registration drive.
4. Decided to hold the LWVUS consensus meetings at our regular meetings in November (board meeting) and December (Holiday Party/Program Planning).
5. Discussed the idea of daytime meetings. Harriet is working with another member to set these up.

League of Women Voters of Camden County

Board Message

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Hello Fellow League Members,

Welcome to a new season of League activities.

We started our new year with a well-attended Kickoff meeting featuring a lively and informative talk on the importance of the separation of church and state. We thank Janice Rael of Americans United for Separation of Church and State for joining us and Myrna Schlanger for organizing a delicious lunch.

This is the season to register voters (Reminder: the deadline to register is October 13), and we have been working at it in various venues, from the naturalization ceremony at the courthouse in Camden to the Camden Community College welcome back celebrations in Camden and Blackwood.

We are happy to say that the Running & Winning committee is once again planning its workshop for high school girls; the April 2016 event will be held at the Leap Academy in Camden.

Also coming up is our November board meeting, which we encourage our membership to attend, as it will determine our consensus on the process of changing the constitution, which will then be reported to the national League. And we hope some of you will register for the October 10th workshop run by the League of Women Voters of New Jersey. See [page 5](#).

Finally, if you have not already done so, please, please renew your membership.

Harriet Snyder
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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Visit our web site: <http://www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty>
Follow us on Twitter: @LWVCCNJ

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!

Haddon Township: Rohrer Library: Take 295 to Route 30 north. On 30, pass King's Highway. In about a mile after King's Highway, just after Nicholson Road on the left, you'll see Cuthbert Road on the right. Turn right onto Cuthbert from 30. Stay on Cuthbert for about half a mile. Just past Hopkins, turn right onto MacArthur. The library is at that corner. // This is the same Cuthbert Road that becomes Cuthbert Blvd further north at routes 70 and 38, so you could take it south from there. MacArthur is about 0.8 miles south of Haddon Avenue on Cuthbert Blvd.

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.

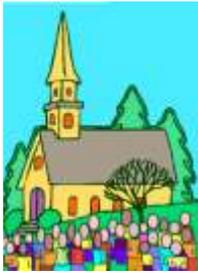
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Freeholder Meetings

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!

The list for the year is online at <http://www.camdencounty.com/your-government/public-information/2015-freeholder-meetings>

The October meeting is October 15 at 7PM (Camden County Boathouse 7050 N. Park Avenue, Pennsauken. Take a look -- see when they are near you and observe the meeting!



League of Women Voters of Camden County Annual Kickoff 2015-16!



Janice Rael

**Americans United for Separation of Church and State.
"Fight theocracy, not faith: Separation supporters should
seek solidarity"**

Janice Rael from Americans United for Separation of Church and state addressed the group of about 30 individuals on a variety of topics relevant to her area.

At one time she was involved in what she called "in your face " activism. She kept finding the religious right as standing against what she believed in. She was active in ACT UP during the early years of the AIDS epidemic. For example, the church in Philly was a major source of help for poor medically needy people and they denied services to gay men. So ACT UP protested, staged die ins and acted in the streets.

Other religious right groups held intense protests at abortion clinics, so she worked with Operation Rescue. They weren't allow to directly challenge the protesters so they said good morning or sang commercial jingles loudly! One day there were children saying rosaries. In front of clinic. At the time she dating a woman so they started kissing in front of the kids, whose parents quickly withdrew them!

After some personal troubles, when she got back into action, she soon discovered Americans United. At that time American Atheists were too in-your-face anti religion for her (they have since moderated their hostile tone). AU doesn't challenge religion but only pushes the separation of church and state. "Don't agonize, organize" is AU's motto. She helped in the fight against intelligent design in PA. They fought vouchers, because they oppose defunding public schools in favor of private ones. They fought against the "war on women" in Trenton. They are watching the World Meeting of Families to be sure that the city is fully reimbursed for its expenses.

She learned from a League meeting many years ago that it is okay to vote for someone of a different party if you don't agree with the answers of the party you normally support. She is grateful to the League for that.

She noted that the first amendment was meant by Jefferson to be a wall of separation. The language of the constitution was developed as committees negotiated. An original proposal was more explicit, and the final version somewhat ambiguous. But reference to Jefferson's writings makes clear what the intent was.

An audience member asked about "under God" in the pledge of allegiance. Janice explained that AU is not ready to challenge the pledge because society is not ready to allow that right now.

Youth -- they are working hard at it but with limited success (like a lot of other organizations).

LWVNJ Fall Workshops Saturday October 10, 2015

Reclaiming Democracy

What can be done to increase voter turnout? New Jersey's voter turnout rates are at record lows. Join us as we hear from experts offering their solutions to combat decreased voter participation. The day will run from 9 am - 3 pm and will include breakfast and lunch, a keynote speaker, a panel, and afternoon workshop sessions.

Keynote Speaker: Sam Daley-Harris

Sam Daley-Harris is the author of *Reclaiming our Democracy: Healing the Break Between People and Government*, a book about finding solutions through powerful citizen action.

In 2012 Daley-Harris launched the Center for Citizen Empowerment and Transformation to help organizations more deeply engage their supporters and create champions in Congress and the media for their cause.



Daley-Harris has degrees in music and is a songwriter. He lives in Princeton, NJ with his wife, Reverend Shannon Daley-Harris and their children Micah and Sophie.

Voter Empowerment Panel

Following the keynote address, a panel of experts will offer different perspectives on increasing voter turnout.

Afternoon Workshop Sessions: Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in one workshop session of their choosing (**you will be asked to make a selection when registering**).

The American Anti-Corruption Act and Opportunities for NJ Municipalities
The Dangers of Fracking, Gas Pipelines, and Climate Change
If All Politics is Local, should there be a Uniform Code of Ethics for Local Politics?
All About Redistricting

Special Group Session: How to Conduct a Study - Following the afternoon workshops, we will all come back together to discuss the two upcoming LWVUS studies and the two upcoming LWVNJ studies. You will leave with a better understanding of the study process.

New Jersey Hospital Association Conference Center 760 Alexander Road Princeton, NJ 08540
Register [here](#).

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. **First time new annual membership** is only \$25! This also applies to student and household members (for an entirely new household membership).

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)

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League of Women Voters of Camden County
 P. O. Box 245
 Voorhees, NJ 08043