



The VOTER

VOLUME 48 NUMBER 8

September 2009

Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
LWVCC Voter registration weekend 1	Sept 26	Sat	10 - 5	Cherry Hill Mall
LWVCC Fall Kickoff	Sept 30	W	6:30 p.m.	NJ American Water in Delran
LWVCC Voter registration weekend 2	Oct 3	Sat	TBA	Middle School, Stratford
LWVCC Board Meeting	Oct 7	W	7 p.m.	Harriet Snyder's House. Please call: 856- 779-1298 to RSVP or for directions
Freeholder caucus meeting	Oct 20	Tu	6 p.m.	Freeholder Conference Room, 16th floor-Courthouse, Camden
Freeholder public meeting	Oct 22	Th	7 p.m.	CamCo Boathouse Park Drive Pennsauken

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Membership Director Needed

Have you been considering a more active role in the League? Are you a "people person"? We can use you!

Much of the detail work of membership is handled by the treasurer and the database manager.

We need some one to contact new members and prospective members, send materials, invite them to activities, and fun things like that. If interested, contact us!

Co-Presidents' Message:

SEPTEMBER IS VOTER REGISTRATION MONTH

Dear League Members,

Early Fall has been very busy, but rewarding, and we look forward to the beneficial promises. In this issue, we have included our service activities for August and September:



August Moderator Training

The League of Women Voters enjoy a high level of public trust. A large measure of that is the result of the fairness and competence of League trained moderators. We have a reputation for providing non-biased and skilled moderators. Because of this heavy responsibility, moderators must undergo training by qualified League trainers. Our August 23, 2009 moderator training led by Ed Gracely was very successful and informative. Thank you, Ed.

Fall Forum and Workshop

Almost 100 people attended the workshop on Saturday, September 12, 2009 at the New Jersey Hospital Center in Princeton, New Jersey. Jamie Harrison was the moderator. The excellent Keynote speaker, Andrew Hyman and panelists, David L. Knowlton, Elizabeth A. Ryan, Esq. and Wardell Sanders, Esq. discussed the need for health care reform while concentrating on pertinent issues related to 1) How can coverage be given to all without increasing cost even more 2) the different approaches to health care reform and 3) the impact of these reforms on cost, coverage, and quality, to name a few. Workshops led by League Leaders followed the forum.

Statewide Voter Registration Weekend September 26 and September 27

LWVCC Voter Registration will be the weekend of September 26 and October 3, 2009.

We have partnered with two non-partisan organizations and one middle school (Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., South Jersey Alumnae Chapter, Burlington/Camden Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, and the Samuel L. Yellen Middle School) respectively, to hold Voter Registration Drives. On September 26, 2009 Voter Registration will be held at the Cherry Hill Mall, Cherry Hill, NJ from 10:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. and on October 3, 2009 Voter Registration will be held at the Samuel L. Yellen Middle School in Stratford , New Jersey.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CAMDEN COUNTY FALL KICKOFF September 30, 2009

Come join the LWV of Camden County for an exciting tour of the water facilities of New Jersey American Water-Delran Plant. Learn about the quality and supply of our water and ways to conserve it. Come find out:

- 1) If we are running out of quality water sources.
- 2) What are the different contaminants in our water supply?
- 3) What can we do to conserve our water and reduce our cost?

Topic : Water Quality, Supply, and Conservation

Speaker: Mr. Jason Gonzalez, VP of Government Affairs

Please, see the Calendar Section and the [flier](#) (page 4) for details.

League Membership: The League Works: The call for new members is being answered. Thank you.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE A THING OF THE PAST - "NOW MAIL-IN BALLOTS

In June the "Vote by Mail" law was enacted, changing the rules for what was formerly known as the absentee ballot. First, the term "absentee" ballot has been replaced with the term "mail-in" ballot. Please read the "What you need to know" on [page 7](#) of the Voter. More details at <http://www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty/voting.html>.

RUNNING AND WINNING 2010

Team Planning is successfully in progress for another stellar event to be held in 2010.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW JERSEY: CALL ALERT-WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Candidates dodge primetime debate -- Call the gubernatorial candidates and tell them they owe it to the voters to participate in the League of Women Voters of New Jersey prime time debate

Jon Corzine's campaign office - 609-695-7179

Chris Christie's campaign office 862-579-3181

In closing, we firmly believe **EVERY VOTER HAS THE RIGHT to know political candidates' views, opinions and records on substantive issues and, EVERY VOTER HAS THE RIGHT to hear candidates debate the important issues facing the state and the nation in open forums, free from campaign manipulation and partisan control.**

Winnifred Rowell-Bullard

Harriet Snyder

Co-Presidents

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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Welcome to



Visit our web site: <http://www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty>

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.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CAMDEN COUNTY FALL KICKOFF



COME JOIN THE **LWV OF CAMDEN COUNTY**
FOR AN EXCITING TOUR OF THE WATER FACILITIES OF
NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER - DELRAN PLANT
AND STAY TO LEARN ABOUT THE QUALITY AND SUPPLY
OF OUR WATER AND WAYS TO CONSERVE IT.

COME FIND OUT:

IF WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF QUALITY WATER SOURCES.
WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT CONTAMINANTS IN OUR WATER SUPPLY?
WHAT CAN WE DO TO CONSERVE OUR WATER AND REDUCE OUR COSTS?

- DATE:** Wednesday, September 30th, 2009
- PLACE:** NJ American Water - Delran Plant
213 Carriage Lane, Delran, NJ
- TIME:** 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- TOPIC:** Water Quality, Supply, and Conservation
- SPEAKER:** Mr. Jason Gonzalez, Vice President of Government Affairs

- SCHEDULE:** Tour starts promptly at 6:30pm
Speaker presentation and questions around 7:30 PM
Light refreshments/LWVCC presentation around 8:00 PM

To be able to participate in these activities, we will need the name(s) of all wishing to attend by September 23rd, 2009. Only adults allowed for this program.

Detach and mail registration for this tour program
by **September 20th, 2009** (to ensure receipt by Sept 23) to:
LWVCC PO Box 245 Voorhees, NJ 08043-0245

Name(s) _____ Phone No. _____
(Name(s) listed above must match ID being shown at time of tour)

Address _____

Check box if meeting at Cherry Hill Library for car pooling:

If you wish to car pool or follow others going to this event, Please be at the Cherry Hill Library on Kings Hwy by 6:00 pm sharp on September 30. Call the League's voice mail (856-795-7878) or e-mail the League (LWVCC@hotmail.com) for more information.

Board Report

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At its Sept 2 meeting, the LWVCC board:

1. Made plans for voter registration weekend (Sept 26 and 27). **Volunteers will be needed!** Let us know if you'd like to help register voters
2. Discussed the Kickoff at NJ American Water, Sept 30.
3. Tentatively planned Nov 18 for an in-state tuition consensus meeting, possibly led by folks from Running & Winning (since they used immigration questions and are familiar with the issue).
4. Learned about "Calling Post", an online resource for making reminder calls to members.



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.*

Camden County Emergency Training Center 420 Woodbury Turnersville Road. From points north, take route 42 south to exit 10 A. Travel south on 168 (Black Horse Pike) for about 2 miles. After Dearborn and Fairmount Avenues on your left, turn right onto Lakewood (which is Davistown in the other direction) for 0.7 miles. Turn right at the T onto Woodbury Turnersville Rd for 0.2 miles. // From the south, go north on 42, exit to Sicklerville Road. Go straight at the 168 intersection, continue for 1.5 miles.

Pennsauken: Camden County Boathouse, 7050 N Park Drive. Route 70 west past Garden State Pavilion to Cuthbert Blvd. In about 0.3 miles, turn right onto Park Blvd. for about a mile. The boathouse is on the right. You can also get onto N Park from Route 30/130 (Crescent Blvd.) about half a mile above Haddon Ave. Turn right onto N Park for 0.6 miles.

Voorhees: Vogelson Regional Library: Driving south on 30, turn left onto Somerdale Road, just above the Echelon Mall. Go under the train bridge in about a half mile, then turn right onto Burnt Mill. Soon turn left onto Laurel Road. The library is on your right. 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!



From the LWVNJ

Women's Equality Day Event a Success!

On August 26, Women's Equality Day, the League celebrated with a tour of our historic state office followed by a suffragist walk organized by the NJ Division on Women. It was a wonderful day and made us proud to be members of the League of Women Voters, such an important part of the women's suffrage movement. Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate.



Marching through Trenton to the State House



LWVNJ Executive Director, Anne Ruach Nicolas, reading from the Declaration of Sentiments on the State House steps

BALLOT QUESTION ANALYSIS GREEN ACRES, WATER SUPPLY AND FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION, AND FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOND ACT OF 2009

If approved, this public question will allow the State of New Jersey to borrow up to \$400 million by issuing general obligation bonds of the State. These bonds are backed by the full faith and credit of the State with principal and interest paid from the State budget.

The Bond Act allocates the \$400 million as follows: (1) \$218 million will be used for the Green Acres program, (2) \$146 million will be used for farmland preservation purposes; (3) \$24 million will be used for the "Blue Acres" program, by which the State may purchase from willing sellers, for open space preservation purposes, properties that are prone to or have incurred flood or storm damage; and (4) \$12 million for historic preservation.

Reasons to vote "yes":

- Open space and historic preservation provide numerous benefits, such as support for tourism, protection of our water supply, and maintenance of wildlife diversity. Farmland preservation supports an economically viable agricultural industry.
- Land costs are relatively low at present due to the national economic recession.
- Use of a bond issue allows the state to purchase additional open space without increasing taxes (although tax revenues may be needed to cover payments in the future).

Reasons to vote "no":

- The State already has a large debt burden, which must be paid off. The state's finances are in poor shape at this time, which raises concerns about new expenditures or debt.
- If certain purchases are seen as critical, alternative funding mechanisms could be chosen for them that do not involve additional borrowing.
- New bond issues every few years do not provide a stable, sustainable source of funding for open space preservation.

Absentee Ballots are now Mail-In Ballots

As of several years ago, you didn't need a reason for an absentee ballot in New Jersey. As of 2009, you can get one even more easily with less paperwork!

What you need to know in bullet form:

- You can still get a "Mail-In" ballot for any reason.
- Mail-In ballots are now good for a variety of durations. If you so choose, you may get a mail-in ballot:
 - o for all elections to be held during the remainder of the calendar year; or
 - o for all future November general elections until otherwise requested.
- Authorized Messengers:
 - o Cannot be a candidate in the election.
 - o Must be a family member or a registered voter in that county.
 - o Cannot serve as messenger for more than TEN (10) qualified voters per election.
 - o Must sign each mail-in ballot application and show a photo ID in the presence of the County Clerk or County Clerk designee.

See the LWVCC web site for more details:

<http://www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty/voting.html>

Candidates dodge primetime debate, voters suffer

By Jesse Burns, LWVNJ

Since this spring, the League of Women Voters of New Jersey Education Fund has been working with its partners WPVI-TV, WABC-TV, and The College of New Jersey to bring together the gubernatorial candidates for a primetime debate that would reach every household in New Jersey. This debate would have the ability to reach all New Jersey residents at a convenient time and on the most-watched television stations in New Jersey. Initial responses from the candidates were encouraging.

Unfortunately for the voters, Governor Jon Corzine has turned down this opportunity for maximum exposure to the voters and Republican candidate Chris Christie will not debate the Independent candidate Christopher Daggett unless Corzine agrees to participate in the debate.

The one-hour debate would pre-empt two top-rated shows, Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune and would reach every household in New Jersey on 6abc Philadelphia and WABC 7 New York, and on Univision Manhattan and Vineland. The last gubernatorial debate held by this partnership had over 600,000 viewers - a number unmatched by any other debates.

"We are dedicated to the voters of this state and wish the candidates valued the voters with the same dedication. New Jersey needs a third debate - held by experienced nonpartisan sponsors, in primetime, and on the most watched television stations." said Anne Ruach Nicolas, Executive Director of the League of Women Voters of New Jersey. "It is the voters who lose when the candidates do not take every opportunity to be seen and heard in fair and nonpartisan debates. ...The candidates need to take this opportunity to debate for the sake of the voters." concluded Ruach Nicolas.

If You Are Interested In:

- X *Learning about government and the political process.*
- X *Getting involved in the political process in nonpartisan ways.*
- X *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)



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

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Time Value