



# The VOTER

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VOLUME 61 NUMBER 7

November-December 2021

## Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION/INFO
<b>Speaker meeting</b>	Dec 13, 2021	M	7-8:30	Zoom. Mishon Montgomery – From the organization 'She Should Run' will be the speaker. See flier in the Voter <a href="#">here</a> . Register here: <a href="https://bit.ly/LWVCCRegistration_SheShouldRun">https://bit.ly/LWVCCRegistration_SheShouldRun</a>
<b>Program Planning</b>	Jan 19, 2022	W	7 pm	We decided to do this a bit later (we usually go in December).
<b>LWVNJ Meet and Greet</b>	Jan 26, 2021	W	5 pm	Learn more about LWVNJ's activities, priorities, and opportunities! Click <a href="#">here</a> .

Check out the Google calendar on our home page. <https://www.lwvccnj.org/>

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### Meeting Report

#### Board meetings Oct and Nov 21 (a lot of overlap)

1. Numerous voters services activities were successful, ranging from getting out the vote via post cards and text banking to speaking to M'kor Shalom about voting, to handing out door hangers on early voting. And a lot more! Voter registration, moderating, etc.
2. The DEI committee had a productive meeting, including a discussion of The Awkward Thoughts of W. Kamau Bell.
3. A postcard campaign to candidates increased participation in Vote411.
4. The LWVCC membership committee is getting organized and developing its plans.
5. We planned our December speaker meeting and agreed to hold program planning in mid January.
6. We agreed that we need a strategic planning session.
7. We are investigating policies on posting on YouTube videos that show attendees (like Zoom).

**League of Women Voters of Camden County**

## Co-Presidents' Message



Dear Members and Friends,

Please welcome two new members, Kristyn Souder and Sophia Gawronski.

With the November elections behind us, we are looking forward, making plans and seeking engagement!



We are thrilled about our upcoming December Webinar “Pathways to Public Leadership”, featuring **Mishon Montgomery**, Program Director for **She Should Run**. Please join us on December 13, 2021 at 7pm on Zoom. Register here: [https://bit.ly/LWVCCRegistration\\_SheShouldRun](https://bit.ly/LWVCCRegistration_SheShouldRun)

At the Chapter level we will be focusing on Program Planning and Strategic Planning in January and February. These are both important ways for us to review and revise our priorities, goals, and strategies for success. All members and friends are welcome to participate, although only LWV members may vote on certain decisions. Meeting dates (virtual) will be announced shortly!

We are also prioritizing the adoption of a more user friendly, interactive, personalized communications platform and website. If you would like to volunteer your time to help with the transition, please email us at [lwvccnj@gmail.com](mailto:lwvccnj@gmail.com).

LWVNJ is making fabulous efforts to support local chapters with advocacy tools for our members and friends. These are some of the initiatives that LWV supports, we hope you will lend your voice to the efforts:

- **Redistricting-** The redistricting process needs your voice on behalf of Fair Maps - Learn how to get involved: <https://www.fairdistrictsnj.org/raise-your-voice>
- **Same Day Voter Registration-** 20 states already have it! Write an email to your legislator [https://secure.everyaction.com/rg1JYh38\\_0WYUbnEs2E--A2](https://secure.everyaction.com/rg1JYh38_0WYUbnEs2E--A2) )
- **Reproductive Freedom Act-** To Assure access the *full* range of reproductive services in NJ Write an email to your legislator: <https://www.thrive-nj.com/take-action?emci=0ef1e2dd-0e47-ec11-9820-c896653b26c8&emdi=959a28c4-cc4b-ec11-9820-c896653b26c8&ceid=10572899>
- **Reparations-** Take Action NOW to repair NJ Racial Injustices! Write to the Governor and your legislators: <https://actnow.io/fkrOkXN?emci=0ef1e2dd-0e47-ec11-9820-c896653b26c8&emdi=959a28c4-cc4b-ec11-9820-c896653b26c8&ceid=10572899>
- **Police Reform-** LWVNJ has joined with NJ-CAP to advance a package of police reform bills through the New Jersey legislature. Send emails to legislators in support: <https://action.aclu.org/send-message/nj-2021-policing-intro?emci=0ef1e2dd-0e47-ec11-9820-c896653b26c8&emdi=959a28c4-cc4b-ec11-9820-c896653b26c8&ceid=10572899>

As always, your efforts and volunteer hours are the core of the League’s pledge to Make Democracy Work. We look forward to carrying on together, as 2021 draws to a close and we welcome 2022!

Happy and Safe Holidays to you and yours!

In League,

Anita Hahn and Jodi Feldman,

Co-Presidents, LWVCC



## Getting there - Directions!

From your house or back yard. All meetings are virtual for the time being. Zoom!

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### Board of Commissioners Meetings

We encourage League members to observe Board of Commissioners 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. It's good for Camden County!

The list for the year is online in the form of a county events calendar at <https://www.camdencounty.com/events/> It has lots of entries and is a bit hard to navigate.

It is helpful to show the list as a calendar month (see pulldown menu on the right). Caucus meetings appear to be on the third Tuesday, and Commissioners meetings are the Thursday after that, which can be either the third or fourth Thursday.

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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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Visit our web site: <http://lwwnj-camden.org/>

Follow us on Twitter: @LWVCCNJ

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVCCNJ/home>

*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) 438-0182.

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**VOTING IN THE GENERAL ELECTION 2021**

*Anita Hahn  
Co-President LWVCC*



The numbers are in, folks. This year was considered an off-year election as no federal positions were up for election. There were statewide races for Governor, Lt. Governor, state senators and representatives, municipal and school board positions.

In Camden County there are just under 400,000 registered voters, 398,229 as of election day to be exact. Of those registered voters, 38.3% cast their ballots, a slight 2.9% increase over the most recent “off-year” election in 2017. Here’s the breakdown:

Registration & Turnout 2021 General Election Camden County  
398,229 Voters

	Vote Count	Percent
Machine Turnout	73,183	18.38%
Mail-In Ballot Turnout	68,783	17.27%
Provisional Turnout	6,034	1.52%
Early Voting Turnout	3,438	0.86%
 Total	 151,438	 38.03%

This year saw the introduction of electronic poll books statewide, a welcome upgrade from the old-fashioned printed books. The e-poll books are about the size of an I-pad, in a very sturdy case, with a touch screen allowing for network connections and almost instant updating county-wide. E-poll books are really easy to use but as with the introduction of any updated equipment, there were minor glitches and issues to be ironed out. For instance, loose connections, and not all scanners on the e-poll books could read IDs such as drivers licenses or sample ballots, although that wasn't necessary, just a convenience.

In Camden County, new voting machines were introduced at the early voting sites only. On election day, it was back to the usual voting booths. The new equipment, by Dominion, is a touchpad, can display English or Spanish. Once a voter makes their choices, they can review, print a ballot and take it to a separate machine that scans the ballot which then drops into a secure bin. This equipment was rented and may not be the same model that will be purchased by Camden County.

The new e-poll books and voting machines were generally well received by voters here in Camden County. Looking at the numbers, though, it is obvious that more education is necessary in order to increase voter turnout and confidence going forward. It is anticipated that with more publicity and voter education, early voting turnout will increase each year.

# VOTE411 REPORT

*Janet Fisher-Hughes*



At the end of August, we sent out a total of 235 email invitations to candidates across county, municipal, and BOE races. All were sent reminder emails as well. In late September, we sent postcards to 168 non-responding candidates in competitive races. Our postcard campaign had a noticeable impact on response rates, as evidenced by the number of calls and emails received requesting invitations. Still, overall participation in Vote411 by candidates has been rather disappointing during this election season.

- 12 of 103 general election candidates have responded to our invitations to participate (12%)
- 15 of 132 school board candidates have responded (11%)

This compares to at least 30% participation during the 2020 elections.

To improve participation during the next election cycle, we plan to enlist members’ support in following up with candidates via email and snail mail, writing letters to the editor, and promoting the Vote411 website.

Coming in 2022, the Vote411 website will have a new look and feel. Stay tuned!

## In Memoriam -- Marcia Lugger



Sept 2021 - Zoom



Running & Winning, 2009



1999 Naturalization

The following was received from Pete Lugger (Marcia's son) on our Gmail account:

I'm writing to share the sad news that Marcia Lugger passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Tuesday afternoon (Nov 9).

Her Memorial service will be Sunday December 5th at 1pm. Kain-Murphy Funeral Services (15 West End Ave, Haddonfield, NY 08033). In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Haddonfield Historical Society.

The service will also be accessible via Zoom (although not recorded).

Eloise Douglas, who knew Marcia well, wrote:

Marcia will be remembered for her hospitality and photographic skills.

As Hospitality Chair she was always ready to arrange for and set up refreshments for meetings.

Most notable however, was her ever-present camera. Do you remember those photos of Running and Winning participants placed around a picture of the Legislative dome? Marcia was there early taking those professional quality photos. Snaps of them at tables with local mayors, committee or council members & legislators. The teams presenting their candidate for office with posters & speeches.

I'll bet most of us have a picture that she took while we were at an Annual Meeting, conference or party. She was a fan of our candidate forums and if I missed one she would fill me in with her notes and opinion of the candidates.

Marcia was from a LWV family. I met her through her Mother, Barbara Robbins who did moderator training.

Renee Robbins adds the following memory:

Soon after I moved from Maryland to Cherry Hill (1966) I joined the LWV here. I met Marcia at a garden party in Haddonfield where she informed me that her mother's maiden name was Robbins. Marcia and Eloise Douglas were loyal attendees to all meetings and events. I enjoyed our conversations about her family, her work, her community activities. I greeted her as she passed me in the 4th of July parade as a member of the Haddonfield Fortnightly. She was the photographer for Running and Winning from the first in 2000 and every year thereafter. I am grateful to have known her and will miss her very much.

Harriet Snyder said to be sure we mentioned that Marcia regularly and successfully pushed "for the Haddonfield Fortnightly to support Running and Winning." Janet Fisher-Hughes noted, "She has been a huge supporter of Running & Winning and will be greatly missed. May her memory be a blessing."



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CAMDEN COUNTY PRESENTS

# Pathways to Public Leadership

Featuring Guest Speaker, Mishon Montgomery

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021 – 7PM

To Register, Click Here: [https://bit.ly/LWVCCRegistration\\_SheShouldRun](https://bit.ly/LWVCCRegistration_SheShouldRun)

▶▶▶



**Mishon Montgomery** serves as the Director of Programs for **She Should Run**. She oversees programs reaching thousands of women to improve their leadership potential and inspire them to run for office. She is passionate about normalizing female leadership for the present and for the rising generation.



# CAMDEN COUNTY LOCAL LEAGUE MEET & GREET

**JAN 26TH  
5:00PM-6:00PM**

All LWV Camden County chapter members and friends are invited to join a special Meet & Greet to learn more about LWNJ priorities, available resources, & ways to get involved with the League's efforts.

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Get to know LWNJ Community Organizers  
Melissa Marks and Assatta Mann

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Get updates on member opportunities including:

**The Advocacy Training Program**

The Lobby Corps

**Get Out The Vote**

Slack & OutreachCircle

**LWNJ Committees**

& More!

**Join on Zoom**  
**[bit.ly/camdenmeetandgreet](https://bit.ly/camdenmeetandgreet)**

# The Big Picture: Gerrymandering, Fair Maps, Redistricting: A View from the League of Women Voters

## Camden County

Winne Rowell-Bullard  
Co-Present LWVCC 2009-2011

The major challenge to responsible redistricting and to producing Fair Maps is known as Gerrymandering, the practice of dividing a city, state, or county into voting districts in an unfair way. Gerrymandering is used by a political party to manipulate district boundaries in its favor.

The word Gerrymandering originated from Governor Elbridge Gerry of Massachusetts. A bill passed in 1812 by that state's legislature divided the state into districts for the election of state senators which grouped together certain counties which had large Federalist majorities. In this way, the Federalists could win only a few seats in the legislature by huge majority while their opponents could win many more seats by small majorities.

One of the new districts had a shape much like that of a mythical animal. Some people said the shape looked like a salamander; thus a guest at a political dinner suggested that the shape should be called a gerrymander; thus, because of Gov. Gerry, the word gerrymander became popular with the Federalists and later became part of the American language. Some state constitutions forbid gerrymandering.

In 1962, the US Supreme Court ruled citizens may challenge unfair districting for state legislatures. In 1964, the Supreme Court ruled that Congressional Districts and State legislative districts must be as equal in population as possible. (The World Book Encyclopedia G).

Every decade after the National Census, states reapportion their congressional districts to account for population shifts. Some states lose seats in Congress and some states gain seats. Some states see no change.

District lines must be redrawn to ensure that they contain roughly the same number of constituents. The total number of Congressional districts must remain 435.

In many states, the legislature controls redistricting, giving the majority party the power to DRAW MAPS THAT FAVOR THEIR CANDIDATE! Often these "MAPS" take "ABSURD" shapes dividing neighbors from each other based on levels of income, location, ethnic groups, and political status. The legislature doesn't draw the maps in New Jersey, but our process still needs reform. Check out the LWV NJ Fair Districts web site at <https://www.fairdistrictsnj.org/>

In 2019, the LWVUS launched People Powered Fair Maps (PPFM) to revolutionize the process of redistricting by eliminating partisan and racial gerrymandering and making the process fair and transparent. Check it out at <https://www.lwv.org/peoplepoweredfairmaps>

It is the most comprehensive initiative in League History- a Multi-Million-dollar investment to help make our democracy truly representative. (LWVUS). Check out this short video about gerrymandering: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoBMr3b0Mew> from PPFM.

## Contacts for Volunteering

**Voter Registration/Education:** Anita Hahn -- [hahna98@yahoo.com](mailto:hahna98@yahoo.com)

**Government/Advocacy:** Jane Scarpellino -- [jlscarpellino@yahoo.com](mailto:jlscarpellino@yahoo.com)

**Moderating/timekeeping:** Ed Gracely -- [Edgracely@verizon.net](mailto:Edgracely@verizon.net)

**Running & Winning High School Girls Leadership Pgm:**

Janet Fisher-Hughes [Fishyhugs@msn.com](mailto:Fishyhugs@msn.com)

**Social Media/Communication:** Kristin Burke -- [kristinbburke@gmail.com](mailto:kristinbburke@gmail.com)

**Fundraising and Other Outreach:** Kristin Burke -- [kristinbburke@gmail.com](mailto:kristinbburke@gmail.com)

**Vote411 (entering information about candidates):**

Janet Fisher-Hughes -- [Fishyhugs@msn.com](mailto:Fishyhugs@msn.com)

# LWVCC MEMBERSHIP FORM

YES, I am Interested in:

- *Learning about government and the political process.*
- *Becoming involved in the political process in nonpartisan ways.*
- *Meeting and working with other citizens who care about good government.*

***I Want to Join the League of Women Voters of Camden County!***

Send this form with your check to: LWVCC, PO Box 245, Voorhees, NJ 08043

Or join online. Visit: <https://www.lwvccnj.org/join-the-league.html>

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ (our primary mode of communication)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Cell / Home / Work (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (circle type)

Phone 2 Cell / Home / Work (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (circle type)

**Please check activities that might interest you:**

- Voter registration IN PERSON (such as tabling events)
- Voter education ELECTRONIC (for example Vote411.org website)
- Voter education SPEAKING (such as invited talks to local groups or schools)
- Social media, marketing, and/or public relations
- Planning events/ activities
- Advocacy/working with elected officials on League priorities
- Fund raising
- Moderating/Time keeping (Training is provided)
- Writing short articles or summaries for the website or the monthly newsletter
- Running & Winning (our program for high school girls)

**And circle how active you would like to be:**

Membership only    A few times a year    About once a month    More active

**First time new annual membership** is only \$25! \$25 for each new household member.

**Student membership** is \$10!

**Under 35 membership** is \$35 (after the first year, which is only \$25)

**Regular renewal membership** is \$60 annually (plus \$30 for each additional household membership).

Number of members in the household: \_\_\_\_\_

Total dues: \_\_\_\_\_

Extra gift: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you!