



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - GREATER RED BANK AREA

Aberdeen - Atlantic Highlands - Eatontown - Fair Haven - Hazlet - Highlands - Keyport - Little Silver
- Long Branch - Matawan - Middletown - Monmouth Beach - Oceanport - Red Bank - Rumson
- Sea Bright - Shrewsbury - Shrewsbury Township - Tinton Falls - West Long Branch

LWV-GRBA
P.O. Box 7649
Shrewsbury, NJ

www.geocities.com/lwvredbank

The League Of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization of men and women that encourages the informed & active participation of citizens in government and

THE LOCAL SPOTLIGHT JULY-AUGUST 2009

Date	Time	Event	Location
July 13	7PM	Board meeting	Nonnie Godvin, 306 Channel Dr., Monmouth Beach, 732-870-0241
Sept 12	TBD	LWVNJ fall Workshop	TBD
Sept.	TBD	Mall Voter Registration	Monmouth Mall- call Zena to volunteer

Articles in this Spotlight

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CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING LEAGUE ACTIVITIES: www.geocities.com/lwvredbank

**REMINDER: League's activities are open to all members and guests.
Invite a friend to come with you to the events listed above.**

Presidents' Message

Nonnie & I want to start off by welcoming all our new members to the League. We hope you will come to our Board Meetings and take advantage of our programs and other activities.

We also want to thank Bobbie Goldstein for her years of service to the League, especially her tenure as president. As you can see, it takes 2 of us to fill her shoes.

We are putting together a calendar for the upcoming year and hope each and every member will join us for meetings or events. One of the events we have planned is Brunch with the Board in October. We will give you more information in the upcoming Spotlight. The calendar will be included in the next issue of Spotlight. Look it over and mark your calendars for our events!!!!

Don't forget about League websites, they are chock full of information to keep you informed!!!!

Please feel free to contact Nonnie or me with any questions you may have.

My email address is: bchaudhery@verizon.net and Nonnie's is davidnonni@comcast.net.

Barbara & Nonnie

LWV-GRBA Annual Meeting May 30, 2009

Thanks to Nonnie Godvin for having arranged for the meeting to be held at the Channel Club Towers Condominium and to Ellen Hock for handling all the reservations and assisting with the setting up. Twenty seven members and three guests participated and enjoyed - good food, good company, and learning about what LWV-GRBA has done in the past year. The budget was passed, new officers elected, a thank you certificate was given to Mary Andrews who is stepping down as Budget Director, and a beautiful inscribed vase was given to out going president Barbara (Bobbie) Goldstein. Everyone then enjoyed listening to our guest speaker, Brian Thompson, New Jersey Reporter, NBA 4, who shared interesting experiences related to his reporting career and the future of print media.



Brian Thompson



Barbara C. & Nonnie G., Co-presidents, present gift to Bobbie G. out going President



Thank you to Mary Andrews as Budget Director.



Marjorie Levy, Ann McNamara, Joanne Stankievich

Greater Red Bank Area-LWV Annual Report 2008-2009

Barbara Goldstein, President

As president, I was very proud to have led the LWV-GRBA during the past year as we had many successful programs, studied and supported LWNJ & LWVUS items, gained some new members, had a successful fund raiser and were the recipient of a bequest from a former member, worked with other community organizations and continued to expand our voter registration activities and moderating candidate nights. I want to thank all who helped make my term as president an enjoyable one and I extend my best wishes to the incoming co-presidents.

Membership: As of May 3 we have a total of 93 members – 72 individual, 10 family members, 8 national members, 3 honorary 50 year members. Several members joined after attending our Lunch with the Board or other meetings, others joined having found information on our website or from our *Spotlight*, and due to one-on-one contacts. Several long time members - Florence Peskoe, Carla Wilkinson and Michael Huber – passed away and Phoebe Edwards has recently moved to Connecticut. We were in contact with all members via our *Spotlight*, our website www.geocities.com/lwvredbank, e-mails or our phone squad.

Voter Service: Voter registration is one of our major year round undertakings and is a great opportunity for all members to help! In August we responded to requests from the Monmouth Health Center, Long Branch; the Parker Health Center, Red Bank; Lunch Break, Red Bank and Brookdale Community College, Lincroft where we registered voters & supplied voter information .& made people aware of LWV-GRBA. Our largest efforts were again made at the Monmouth Mall, Eatontown (Sept 15-20) where we registered 335 more voters thanks to help from 50 League members and friends, including volunteers from the LWV-Township of Ocean and AAUW-Northern Monmouth County Branch. We responded to an additional request to go to the MOCEANS Transition Fair & students in our Internship in Democracy program at Middletown North H.S. registered students and staff. In June we will again be reaching about 3000 graduates through our “*Get Out the VOTE*” project in 9 local high schools.

To increase our number of trained moderators, Marie Curtis from LWV Township of Ocean, led a training session in August which provided added resources for us to moderate School Board Candidate nights at Rumson-Fair Haven, Lincroft, Keyport and Marlboro Early Learning Center and the Monmouth Beach Municipal candidates’ night. Another training session will be held over the summer.

Working with Schools : Our “*Internship in Democracy*” project only continued at Middletown High School North this year but again was extremely successful thanks to the leadership of Barbara Chaudhery & Peg Rizzo.

Our 3rd *Running and Winning Workshop* on May 1st, was held again at Monmouth Regional High School, and it was a resounding success. It involved 60 junior young ladies from 12 local public high schools, 11 teachers, 17 women in government, 17 trained facilitators and the steering committee of 16 members from the sponsoring organizations: LWV-GRBA, Red Bank Hadassah, American Association of University Women-Northern Monmouth Branch, Junior League of Monmouth County, and the Monmouth County Regional Women’s Political Caucus. Students & teachers came from Keyport HS, Long Branch HS, Middletown HS North, Middletown HS South, Monmouth Regional HS, Red Bank Regional HS, Rumson-Fair Haven H S, Shore Regional HS and the Monmouth County Career Academies: Communications, Allied Health & Science, Biotechnology, MAST.

Get Out the VOTE project for graduating High School seniors was provided for the 6th year. It again reminded about 2800 students in 9 local high schools about the need to vote or apply for absentee ballots in the future.

Reaching Out/Publicity: The LWV-GRBA website, www.geocities.com/lwvredbank, provides good information about LWV-GRBA and is also linked to the LWNJ and LWVUS web sites. There were 4 editions of *The Local Spotlight*. To save paper & dollars we will explore greater use of e-mail distribution where possible. Print copies will still go to local libraries and municipal leaders. Newspaper publicity was sent but little was printed.

Meetings/Events: We dealt with many topics at meetings held at varied time & locations. Included were our Lunch with the Board featuring Linda Seiler, Citizens’ Campaign; our very successful fund raiser- *Capitol Steps; It’s Not Easy to be Green* led by our member Dr. Judith Kramer; viewing of “*Iron Jawed Angels*”; discussion/consensus on *LWNJ Program Planning and LWNJ Voting Rights of Probationers & Parolees* and *The Popular Vote Study* done by LWVUS. *An Overview of the 2010 Census* was a very interesting as was an update on *Immigration-Local, State and National Issues* from Deborah Macmillan. The year ended with our *Annual Meeting & Pot Luck Luncheon*.

Report on LWVNJ Convention

The convention was held May 2, 2009 at the Hyatt Hotel in New Brunswick, There were 63 delegates and 10 visitors representing 37 Leagues. Three members, Barbara Chaudhery, Margaret Rizzo and Grace Chen were there representing LWV-GRBA.

President's Report

President Anne Maiese reported that the issues we shall continue to work on are:

1. Immigration
2. National Popular Vote
3. Voting Rights for Parolees.

There will be a new LWVNJ Committee formed for Immigration.

The VOTE line was a huge success this last election. We even received calls from Connecticut and Virginia, and tried to get answers for them.

The biggest challenge is getting new members, the peak membership time was approximately 30 years ago and has been declining ever since. We are also having problems filling leadership positions and coming up with new models of governance in the League. In terms of finance, this is a difficult economy and with fewer members and increased costs, we are making ends meet with our reserves and some generous donors.

The Solutions:

1. Embrace technology
2. Make most use of our websites
3. Remote conferencing
4. Blogs
5. Social networking- Facebook, My Space, Twitter - Check out the Leagues Facebook page. (sign-up to get to the League's Facebook page).

The LWVNJ now has 3 full time employees: Anne Rauch Nicolas, Executive Director, Pat Thompson, office manager and Jessica Burns Communications Director. To contact LWVNJ call 800-792-8683 or contact@lwnj.org.

We are working with the ACLU on the Voter Protection Project.

Advocacy Report

Sandy Matsen, who is our lobbyist, explained that the majority of the bills will not get through the first step in the Legislature. We are not being heard on certain issues. We need to be selective in regard to which bills we wish to lobby for. All of this is due to the fact that most bills today are fast tracked and we do not have enough time to study them. We need to be on the lookout for the lame duck session which will occur from November 9, 2009 to January 9, 2010.

Some things to be aware of in the coming months

- The courts decision of the supreme court regarding aid for Abbot districts.
- Changes in taxes and how they will affect the caps on school budgets.
- Regarding Natural Resources, we are watching out for stable funding for land purchases, a bottle bill and the use of federal stimulus funds in New Jersey.
- In the lame duck session, look for pay to play and ethic bills and see which will be passed.
- Another issue to watch out for is public finance for elections in 2011.

Guest Speaker

Deborah Jacobs of the ACLU was the guest speaker at our luncheon. Deborah spoke about the decline of print journalism. She also told us of a new website: "www.newjerseynewsroom.com" It was started by a group of 30 former Star-Ledger reporters and has lots of good information. She also spoke about the possibility of newspapers becoming non-profits. The main reason so many papers are going online or just closing down is because of a huge drop in advertising dollars.

Another item Deborah spoke about was a bill coming up in the Legislature that would limit the fee a town, county or the state could charge for making copies of papers for people who request them. Also, Senator Loretta Weinberg is sponsoring a bill to revise the Open Public Meetings Law. Did you know that 4-5 township committee people emailing each other IS a meeting?

Another item the ACLU is working on is having the state come up with a way to have a uniform record keeping system. FOG (Foundation for Open Government) is working to find a way that you can get information, yet peoples' privacy can be protected.

Proposed LWVNJ Program for 2009-2011

The following three programs were voted on and passed for studying in the next two years.

1. Study of dual office holding- expand to include appointed or civil service in addition to elected office.
2. Study of in-state tuition of undocumented students - consider the LWVUS position on immigration as it relates to states charging in-state tuition for undocumented students and how such a policy would affect NJ.
3. Study of updating fiscal policy position of caps - Caps are limits on the amount of taxes that can be raised by local government and school boards. Six leagues recommended this update study. The study will be on the effect of caps on quality and level of services provided, overall spending impact, number and scope of new shared service agreements, and the rate of property tax increases.

Another study regarding our Sequoia Voting Machines and the many problems that are associated with them was recommended by East Windsor League, but it did not pass. However, there is a tape that state has regarding this topic and we may want to get it and watch it. State also has 2 "Programs in a Box" that we can borrow for free and use as programs. One is Alternative Energy and the other is Education.

Finally, the silent auction was held, with lots and lots of baskets to bid on. The state made \$2075.00 on the auction.

Overall, the convention was a success and the League membership liked the idea of a one day convention.

DUES

2009-2010 year dues are now being collected. The year starts July 1st. Please use the form on P11 to renew.



Running & Winning Workshop – May 1, 2009
Sponsored by: The League of Women Voters-Greater Red Bank Area, Red Bank Chapter of Hadassah, American Association of University Women-Northern Monmouth County Branch, Junior League of Monmouth County and Monmouth County Regional Chapter of the Women's Political Caucus

RUNNING & WINNING

On May 4, 2007, May 2, 2008 and May 1, 2009 the listed volunteer organizations planned and successfully held their non-partisan *Running and Winning Workshop* that was developed by the League of Women Voters (LWV) to excite young women in high school about politics. Although constituting 51% of the United States' population, women hold only a small percentage of elected positions. The LWV seeks to change this imbalance by encouraging more young women to become involved citizens.

Due to the previous overwhelming successes, the sponsors again held the Workshop at Monmouth Regional High School, Tinton Falls, NJ. At that time 60 young women in their junior year of high school had opportunities to network, develop decision-making skills, gain self-confidence and be mentored by 16 women in government while learning about some of the intricacies of the political process. In addition 11 teachers from the 12 participating high schools also participated in the activities.

The free all-day workshop includes the following:

- 1) Breakfast, lunch and photographs of each student for the "Imagine You Are a Legislator" poster.
- 2) Interviews: Small groups conduct interviews of our women in government guests.
- 3) Campaign Exercise: Each group member assumes a designated campaign role (including that of candidate). Working together they choose a position on the given non-partisan issue, write a 1-2 minute campaign speech, decide on their campaign slogan and make a poster.
- 4) Campaign Presentations: Everyone gathers in the auditorium to hear the speeches of the candidates, view the supportive posters and provide feedback on the day's activities.

At the end of the Workshop, each student receives a certificate of participation as well as their photograph.

The sponsoring organizations share the belief that more women should run and win elected offices. We want young women to see politics as an attractive and possible career goal. Our *Running & Winning Workshops* have inspired comments similar to these from our participants:

"I loved meeting the women in government because they have achieved so much."

"I loved hearing the speeches we gave at the end. We were awesome."

"We were able to use our talents really well for the campaign."

"Please keep this program in Monmouth County."

"Thanks SO MUCH for having me come!"

"I think we need more women like those in our society. Women empowering women, it was an awesome day and I really enjoyed it."

Thank you to the schools that have participated: Keyport High School, Long Branch High School, Middletown High School North, Middletown High School South, Monmouth Regional High School, Red Bank Regional High School, Rumson Fair Haven High School, Shore Regional High School and the Monmouth County Career Academies: Communications, Allied Health & Science, Biotechnology, MAST.

These LWV-GRBA members helped with R&W'09: on Steering Committee: Barbara Goldstein, Zena Gurman, Ruth Korn, Judy Kramer, Ann McNamara, Rose Stallmeyer; as Facilitators: Peggy Baker, Kay Jensen, Marianne Kligman, Madelyne Ryterband; as Shuttle Bus driver- Brad Gurman; in other ways: Sandy Blackman, Nonnie Godvin, Al Goldstein.

Running & Winning Workshop – May 1, 2009



R&W Steering Committee



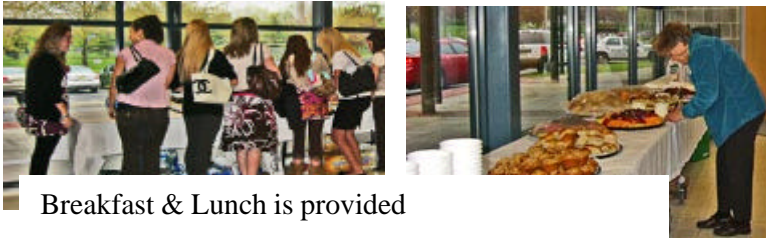
Women in Government



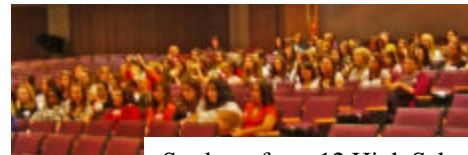
R & W Facilitators



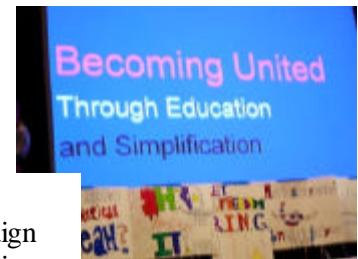
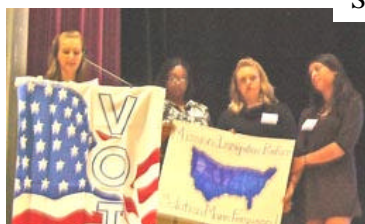
Teacher Liaisons



Breakfast & Lunch is provided



Students from 12 High Schools



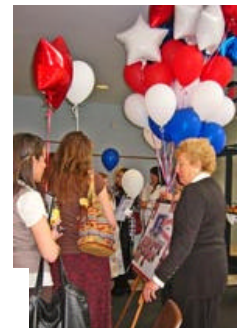
Students & Teachers meet Women in Government. Students & facilitators later work on Immigration topic, campaign strategies, slogans & their groups make presentations to the entire group.



Husbands & MRHS staff assisted with set-up, photos, and as shuttle bus driver.



Students left with their pictures and balloons. A HUGE SUCCESS!



Monmouth ILO Convention

The ILO(Inter-League Organization) Convention was held June 15 at the Monmouth County Library in Shrewsbury.

Monmouth County Sheriff Kim Guadagno was the guest speaker. She spoke about how she became sheriff after being a prosecutor and then becoming active in her town regarding the busing of her son to school.

The office of sheriff is the highest ranking officer that is elected. (Judges, for example, are appointed.)

Sheriff Guadagno oversees a \$68.5 million dollar budget. Some of the facts she mentioned are:

- Monmouth County Jail is the 10th largest county jail in the country.
- There is a 36 unit Youth Detention Center.
- The sheriff also handles the 911 calls for the county with employees available that can speak some 110 languages.

Two of the things Sheriff Guadagno is most proud of are:

- She has put Teddy Bears in cars that pick up deadbeat dads. There are some cases where the children are actually with the fathers when their father are picked up so they get a teddy bear to help relieve some of the anxiety of being taken to the police station in a police car.
- She had set up a GED Program for prisoners in the county jail. The prisoners can also continue to complete the program when they are released. She hopes that this will reduce recidivism.

A business meeting with the election of new officers followed the speaker. The new officers are: Marie Curtis, Co-President (the other co-president is TBD), Secretary: Camille Terracciano, Treasurer:: Don Curtis, Directors: Elaine Anderson, Louise Usechak and Michelle Perkinson. The Director-at-Large is: Sue Sferas. Voter Service is: Sharon Steinhorn, Budget Chair: Sue Sferas. The Nominating Committee for next year are: Esther Greenberg, Barbara Chaudhery, one of the ILO Board Members and 2 from the Board of Directors.

If anyone would like to know the ILO Program, please contact Barbara Chaudhery and we will make sure the information gets to you.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Marie Curtis Award to our own Zena Gurman for her many years of service to the ILO. We congratulate Zena and wish her the best and many more years with the League. Barbara Chaudhery



Monmouth County Sheriff
Kim Guadagno



Esther Greenberg reviewing
Convention Booklet



Esther giving MC award to
Zena

Immigration Program April 14, 2009

Speaker: Deborah Macmillan

Immigration to the United States increased at a steady rate from the beginning of the 20th century until the 1970's when it reached its low point. It began increasing again in the 1990's through the present.

Immigrants today tend to be of working age, have families including children. They are usually lower class or upper middle class e.g. janitors, housekeepers, cashiers, chemists, engineers and medical doctors.

One third of New Jersey children are in immigrant families. In Monmouth County 13% of residents are foreign born. In the 90's 28% of residents were immigrants and in the 2000's 22% were immigrants.

The counties with the highest number of immigrants are: Union, Bergen, Hudson (41%) Middlesex and Passaic (28-30%).

The immigrants in New Jersey come from the following countries:

1. India-10% of immigrants
2. Mexico
3. China
4. Philippines
5. Columbia

In the 1990's, the number of unauthorized immigrants was increasing, it is now leveling off.

In 1982, the Supreme Court ruled in Plyler vs. Doe that children who are in the United States illegally are entitled to the same right to a free public education as American citizens.

This is probably the beginning of changes in our treatment of unauthorized immigrants.

After this program, I(Barbara Chaudhery) went home and reviewed the *Blue Ribbon Panel on Immigration* that Governor Corzine created. I am going to summarize the report to fill in some of the gaps from the program since we could have used another 2 hours to discuss the program.

New Jersey immigrants naturalize and become U.S. Citizens at a faster rate than do immigrants at the national level. 60% of New Jersey's foreign-born residents are working age. In 2006, immigrants accounted for 25.5% of the work force in the state.

Immigrants yield a modest positive fiscal impact on the state budget. They are more likely to be employed and are less likely to depend on public assistance or be incarcerated.

Regarding social services, they are less likely to access available services, such as health, education and domestic violence. The basic reason for this is language barriers.

The Conclusions of the Panel are:

1. The diversity of immigrants strengthens the economic, social and civic fabric of New Jersey.
2. All newcomers to local communities in New Jersey, regardless of immigration status, deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. Immigration integration efforts allow newcomers to become fully contributing members of the community.

3. New Jersey state and local governments have a civic responsibility to set a positive and constructive tone for discourse and to lead community efforts to develop a shared civic identity.
4. Collaboration in immigration integration efforts between the non-profit sector, broadly defined, and government is critical as neither sector has the resources (including staff, finances, or facilities), cultural competence, or access to all of New Jersey's immigrant population groups to effectively do it alone.

Barbara Chaudhery



Deborah Macmillan



Zena Gurman, Nonnie Godvin, Grace Chen, Deborah Macmillan, guest, Aimee Humphreys, Bobbie Goldstein(behind camera)

Baykeeper EcoCruises Set to Sail Again aboard the Captain John.

July 12th - Visit the lighthouses of the New York Harbor. Most of these lighthouses can only be seen from a boat so this is your chance see them up close.

August 9th - Raritan Bay/Sandy Hook Bay. See the Raritan Bayshore from a unique perspective; the water.

\$45 per person
732-888-9870, NY/NJ Baykeeper, 52 West Front Street, Keyport, NJ 07735 - info@nynjbaykeeper.org

Save the environment and cost

In an effort to reduce use of paper and cost of printing for those who have an email address, your next issue will be emailed to you. Now is the time to get a free email address at yahoo.com, gmail.com, or hotmail.com. For those of you who do not have an email account and do not have a computer, we will continue to send you hard copy. This will reduce printing cost of approximately .50 per issue and our impact to the environment. Please send any new or changed email address to me and Bobby Goldstein.

Grace Chen

Phoebe Edwards' nice response on receiving the gift basket on Tuesday, May, 12, 2009

Dear Red Bank League,

I was touched and delighted to receive the fabulous gift box today.

I received so much from the Red Bank League that I feel that it is I who should be thanking you.

Through the League I found mental stimulation, service to the community, knowledge of important issues and much more, but of the greatest importance I found many friends. You were all an important part of my years in New Jersey.

I wish the League well in the coming years. You will often be in my thoughts.

Thank you again.

Fondly, Phoebe

Her new address is -123 York Street 18G, New Haven, CT 06511, phoebedw@aol.com

Internship in Democracy Report '08-'09

Our interns had a busy year this past year. We started off by having Brian Thompson from News 4 New York speak to the interns again. They really enjoyed his program and learned a lot about listening to what candidates have to say. Our upcoming programs include hearing from a Board of Ed member and hopefully, the mayor and township clerk from Middletown.

On March 24th the interns conducted a voter registration drive at High School North. We should register several hundred students as well as teachers and some students from the vocational programs in Middletown.

On February 25, we presented last years students with their letters of commendation from the League as well as certificates from the Middletown Board of Education.

Peg Rizzo and I would like to thank Barbara Guenther as well as the administration of Middletown High School North for their cooperation in the intern program.

Barbara Chaudhery

Five Small Changes To Make Today that will improve our environment...

1. Do Not Idle Your Vehicle - Idling is costly, wasteful, unhealthy, and pollutes.
2. Conserve Water - Turn off your water when you brush your teeth, only run your dishwasher when it's full, install low flow shower heads.
3. Bring your own bag when you shop instead of using plastic bags.
4. Conserve Energy - Turn off your lights, use compact fluorescent light bulbs, and unplug your appliances when not in use.
5. Use your car less and take good care of it - basic car maintenance such as checking your tire pressure, getting regular tune-ups, and preventing leaks are good for the environment and your pocket!

Take some time to get outside and enjoy the world around you. An appreciation of the environment leads to protection of the environment.

Moderating

LWV-GRBA League Provided moderators for the following election forums:
Marlboro School Board - Zena Gurman,
Little Silver-Rumson School Board - Zena Gurman
Keyport School Board - Grace Chen
Lincroft School Board - Mary Andrews

Callathon

THANKS to Zena Gurman who organized our League's Callathon activities and to Phoebe Edwards, Ann McNamara, Ruth Stein, Peg Baker, Jean Klerman, Barbara Chaudhery, Lila Singer, and Louise Usechak who called our members requesting their financial support of this LWVNJ annual appeal.

MEMBERSHIP & LWV-GRBA BOARD

Membership Dues- for 2009-2010

Membership is open to women and men of voting age.

(Your dues include membership in LWV-GRBA, ILO, LWVNJ, LWVUS and provides you with excellent local, state and national publications.)

Dues: \$60/individual, \$90/family, \$25/full-time student

Name _____

Address _____

Town, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Dues \$ _____ Contribution \$ _____

I prefer to pay dues in installments of \$ _____

Citizens Guide @\$3 TOTAL\$ _____

Renewal _____ New Member _____

Make checks payable to LWV-GRBA and send to:
LWV-GRBA, PO Box 7649, Shrewsbury NJ 07702

I am interested in learning more about the LWV

Please send me a complimentary copy of the *Spotlight*

For more information about LWV-GRBA contact:

Barbara Chaudhery,

732-671-4058 bchaudhery@verizon.net

or go to www.geocities.com/lwvredbank

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Off Board:

Jean Kelley Budget Social Policy 732-741-8999

Internship in Democracy Middletown Program
Barbara Chaudhery & Peg Rizzo - MHS North

Nominating Committee (for 2009)

Judy Fuller, Ann McNamara, Barbara Goldstein,
Plus two others to be appointed

Membership Info

Welcome New Members:

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Amy Mallet , 11 LewisPoint Rd., Fair Haven, NJ 07704 922-0300 x 513 amymallet@aol.com

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Please notify bobbiegold@comcast.net with e-mail, phone, and address changes

Stay informed! Since League activities on all levels tries to keep up with current major and local public policies we urge all members to save these websites as favorites and visit them frequently:
www.LWV.org, www.LWVNJ.org and www.geocities.com/lwvredbank.