



THE CAZENOVIA VOTER

THE CAZENOVIA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, P.O. BOX 219, CAZENOVIA, NY 13035 JANUARY 2010

*Please join us for a special presentation sponsored by the
Cazenovia League of Women Voters*

Census 2010: The Basics, The Issues, The Stakes

by Kristi Andersen

**Professor of Political Science at the
Maxwell School of Syracuse University**

***7:00 PM on Wednesday, February 3, 2010
in the Community Room of the Cazenovia Public Library***

Professor Andersen, a regular panelist on WCNY's popular Ivory Tower Half-Hour, will discuss the basics and political controversies over how to conduct the census, and the political stakes of the census count for states and localities. The public is encouraged to attend and learn about this important process.

The census impacts how more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities, the apportionment of seats in the US House of Representatives and the redistricting of state legislatures.

According to the U. S. Census Bureau, the procedure for conducting the census has changed. For the first time since 1930, all addresses in the U.S. will receive a census short form. The form contains ten questions, asking for name, age, gender, race, ethnicity, relationship and whether the respondent owns or rents the home. It should take no more than ten minutes to complete.

The data that used to be collected in a long form is now contained in the American Community Survey, which is sent to a rolling sample of addresses every month, every year, throughout the nation.

Additional information about the census can be found at www.census.gov.

Great Decisions Discussion Group

You are invited to participate in "Great Decisions 2010", a discussion group about U.S. foreign policy, sponsored by the Cazenovia League of Women Voters. The group will meet at 1:00 in the Reference Room of the Cazenovia Public Library, beginning on Thursday, February 4th and continuing on a weekly basis each Thursday until March 26th.

The Foreign Policy Association publishes "Great Decisions 2010" briefing booklets for the discussion at a cost of \$24 (includes shipping and handling.) The eight topics for discussion are: special envoys, Kenya and R2P, global crime, U.S.-China security relations, global financial crisis, Russia and its neighbors, Persian Gulf, and Peace building and conflict resolution.

For additional information, go to www.fpa.org and click on "Great Decisions." To register for this program, please call Wendy Taylor at 655-8920.

President's Message

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were filled with special and cheerful times. The League's holiday party at Helen Beale's home was festive and inviting. Our sincere thanks go to Helen for hosting another gala party, and thanks to the members that brought their favorite food and wine!

Several items are on our League's agenda for this winter. Kristi Anderson will speak about Census 2010 at our membership meeting on February 3rd. "Great Decisions 2010" begins on February 4th and will be held each Thursday through March 26th.

Sharye Skinner is exploring options to put an update of the *Know Your Town* booklet on the League's website. The LWVNYS has adopted the slogan *Fix Albany Now* for this year's legislative priorities which include redistricting, campaign finance reform, ethics reform, and election reform. 2010 Legislative Priorities brochures are available.

This year the League of Women Voters is celebrating its 90th birthday and plans are on the radar for a spring fundraiser. I look forward to LWV membership involvement and active participation in 2010.

Wendy Taylor, Cazenovia LWV President

Students Inside Albany

A four day training experience will be held in Albany on April 11 to 14, 2010. The program is designed to immerse students in the process by which public policy is proposed, enacted and changed in the New York State and educate them as to how they can influence and affect this process. Albany insiders discuss the operations of NYS government and how policy is shaped. Students learn about the disparate forces that influence policy development. They are afforded the opportunity to observe Assembly and Senate sessions and to shadow their Assembly members and Senators.

The program is free to all students.
For additional information, contact Sharye Skinner at 655-4371.