

September 2010

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**League of Women Voters of**  
**Greater Birmingham**  
205 583-5000  
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*The Voter*

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### Save the dates -

## LWVGB meeting September 30, 11:30 Alabama Power Electra Room to be briefed on the Railroad Park Ramble and Sunday afternoon October 10, 2010 for the Ramble

The League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham is teaming up with agencies and organizations in the Birmingham area working to promote walking and cycling for pleasure, health, and environmental sustainability. LWVGB is working with the Jefferson County Department of Health, Operation New Birmingham and Railroad Park on this project.

### What is proposed?

- Use social media to invite and involve the public in fun and simplified walk/bike audits – how do I get to Railroad Park from ‘here’ – time, distance, obstacles, what’s along the way?
- Routes could be audited any time, but results turned in at a rally at Railroad Park Sunday afternoon, October 10 – preferably after coming from the chosen starting point on foot or bicycle.

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## National Voter Registration Month

Register to Vote on



## ACCR Listening Sessions

ACCR Inc, the advocacy arm of ACCR, invites you to organize a Listening Session between now and the November elections in your neighborhood, church or organization so that ACCR Board members can meet with you to discuss Legislative options and strategies for the 2011 Legislative Session. The ACCR Inc. Board has been evaluating several legislative options and strategies in light of our past efforts, and needs your input, ideas and feedback in Listening Sessions throughout the State. We want to hear from you today and to get your thoughts and feedback on making the 2011 Legislative Session the most productive that ACCR and its sponsors and co-sponsors have ever had!

Would you set up a Listening Session in your neighborhood through your local civic organizations, clubs, school groups, churches, neighborhood clubs and social groups?

Contact Nancy Ekberg at e-mail [nanekberg@aol.com](mailto:nanekberg@aol.com) for more information.

## “Save the Dates”

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### Why:

- Get people out of cars and raise awareness of the remarkable convergence of programs and properties available to help make our community more walkable, bikeable, healthier and environmentally sustainable.
- Provide preliminary information to promote walking/biking in general and our urban core and Railroad Park in particular.
- For those who choose to, send a message about our commitment to controlling our greenhouse gas emissions to help move our region forward into the new lower-carbon economy.

After your League President and Natural Resources Chair determine the LWVGB role in the event, we'll post more specific opportunities to get involved on our Facebook page and send members an email. For now, be thinking about where you might want to start your walk/bike to the Park. If you don't have a specific location, we'll be given some suggestions by planners so you can gather at those spots. To educate yourselves about the international 10/10/10 event, sponsored by [350.org](http://www.350.org), go to [www.350.org/oct10](http://www.350.org/oct10) and learn more about climate change and what we can do at the LWVUS Toolkit for Climate Action (<http://www.lwv.org/climatechangetoolkit>)

Don't miss this purposeful and fun event! Recruit friends – and potential new League members – to join you for this first Ramble. Spread the word!

## ASK THE CANDIDATES!

Send in your questions for the October 19 Gubernatorial Debate at Auburn.

The candidate debates on September 16 and October 19 will be co-hosted by the League of Women Voters of Alabama Education Fund, the University of Alabama and Auburn University Student Government Associations, the Auburn and West Alabama Chambers of Commerce, and the Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP). **The debates will be broadcast live on [Alabama Public Television](#), [Alabama Public Radio](#) and [al.com](#).**

**Submit a question to be asked during a debate.**

Questions must be received by 9 a.m., Oct. 16 for the AU debate.

- Submit online at [www.decisionalabama.ua.edu](http://www.decisionalabama.ua.edu) **OR**
- E-mail to [2010gubernatorialdebate@gmail.com](mailto:2010gubernatorialdebate@gmail.com) **OR**
- Mail to LWVAL, P.O. Box 1326, Tuscaloosa AL 35403.

## Voters Service Projects Underway

An update of the current “Alabama Government at Your Fingertips” is being done by Yvonne Brakefield and new members Beverly Rausch and Cyron dys Jackson. The latest version, which will incorporate the Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> election results should be ready for distribution by January 30, 2011.

In preparation for Sunshine Week next March, a committee is undertaking a review of various local government websites. This project will assess the openness of the governmental entity and communication and ease of use for citizens. Virginia Randolph heads the committee, which includes Ida Tyree-Hyche, Diane Marks and Connie Arnwine.

Dear League Member:

It's time to renew your membership with the [League of Women Voters](#) of Greater Birmingham. We value your membership and your participation in our local league as we work to make lasting changes in our communities. Please join us for an exciting year in 2010 and 2011! We have programs planned on health care, the environment and our government. We need your help and input as we move forward. If you wish to help out, but haven't quite found your niche, please give Nancy Ekberg, our membership chair a call at 967-2897 (or email her at [nanekberg@aol.com](mailto:nanekberg@aol.com)) or you may simply check the box below and we will contact you!

**Please print and send this page along with your check to the address listed below by **October 1**.**

(Please don't make us send this to you in a separate letter, eating up League time and money ☹️.....just go ahead and mail in your dues today!..🙄.or renew through [Pay Pal](http://PayPal) online at [www.lwvgb.org](http://www.lwvgb.org) )

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: home: \_\_\_\_\_ cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Renewal: Single: \$45.00 Family: \$65.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Optional tax-deductible contribution to the LWVAL Education Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that a separate check from your dues check must be written to the LWVAL Ed Fund with a notation that it is intended for the Birmingham League

Check Total enclosed: One check for dues \_\_\_\_\_  
One check for LWVAL Ed Fund \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in getting more involved with the League. Please call me!

**Send to: LWVGB  
P. O. Box 530522  
Birmingham, Al 35235**

# Dues are due!

## LWVGB Calendar

Month	Day	Time	Event
September	30	11:30am	Monthly membership meeting Alabama Power Company Electra Room
October	5	11:30am	Board Meeting Community Foundation Building
October	10	TBD	10/10/10 Global Work Party

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

From birth to eighteen, a girl needs good parents, from eighteen to thirty-five she needs good looks, from thirty-five to fifty-five she needs a good personality, and from fifty-five on she needs cash.  
~ Sophie Tucker

American youth attributes much more importance to arriving at driver's license age than at voting age.  
~ Marshall McLuhan

My definition of a free society is a society where it is safe to be unpopular.  
~ Adlai Stevenson

***Bienvenue! Willkommen! Velkomin!***

*Welcome to new member Michael O'Donnell  
from Birmingham.*

League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham  
P. O. Box 530522  
Mountain Brook, AL 35253