



## Introducing Caesar Phillips

By Bobbie Mumford



Caesar A. Phillips, the new Secretary of the Miami-Dade League, is in his second term as a Board member. Actually, he is the only man on the Board. “When you are raised almost solely by a mother, had teachers who were largely women and worked in a nursing home with women nurses only, you don’t see females.’ I see competent people with whom I have common goals,” Phillips stated.

background of objectivity he brings to this task. “We focus more on issues and how to impact society,” he said. He is active in the Kiwanis, Rotary and chambers of commerce on Miami-Dade. “I served just haven’t done enough in this area.” He speaks on voter projects with outreach to high school students, involvement from inner city to suburbs and assurance of diversity and inclusion.

Currently, Phillips is with the Miami-Dade Department of Parks and Recreation. Previously, he was a 27-year-community affairs executive with Florida Power and Light Company and spent nine years as executive director of Miami Capital Development, Inc. He is known by his peers and associates as an outstanding communicator, negotiator and mediator with the ability to translate complex matters into understandable terms.

Mr. Phillips holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Miami, a Master’s in Business Administration from Barry University and an Advanced Studies Certificate in Government Operations from Brookings Institute in Washington, D.C. He is married to Snovia, an R.N., and they are proud parents of four children and three grandchildren.

## AN INVITATION TO MEMBERS

At its August strategic planning meeting, the Board LWV of Miami-Dade County resolved to issue a standing invitation to all members of our local League to promote member attendance at board meetings. Board meetings will be held at 6 pm on the third Monday of every other month beginning in November at the United Way of Miami-Dade County, 3250 SW 3rd Avenue.

The Board also resolved to begin holding one-half hour general membership meetings immediately before issue forums. The first one will be held on October 28th at 11:30 am before the Hot Topic luncheon on Health Care Reform. We hope to see you there!

*Terry A. Coble*

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## GO GREEN! HELP US REACH YOU VIA E-MAIL

If you are receiving this issue of *The Voter* by U.S. mail, please send us your e-mail address if you have one! Help us lower our mailing expenses by sending you *The Miami-Dade Voter* and other timely information and notices via e-mail! Please send an e-mail to Terry Coble, Associate Editor, *Miami-Dade Voter*, at [terryarose@bellsouth.net](mailto:terryarose@bellsouth.net) so we can add you to our e-mail distribution list. **Thank you!**

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### Health Care Reform: What’s In It For You

Wednesday, October 28th  
12:00—1:30

94th Aero Squadron Restaurant  
1395 NW 57th Avenue  
(State Road 836 at Red Road)

**Buffet Lunch—\$25**

[terryarose@bellsouth.net](mailto:terryarose@bellsouth.net)

### LWV of Miami-Dade Board Meeting

Monday, November 16th  
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

United Way of Miami-Dade  
3250 SW 3rd Avenue  
Miami, FL

## President's Corner

I am thrilled to be serving as your new president and humbled by the excellent work of the many who have gone before me. Thank you for your confidence. I will do my best to live up to it. Our work begins!

Your 2009-10 Board began the year with not one but two summer orientation sessions, ably facilitated by our own Donna Ginn, and culminating in a pared-down but challenging strategic plan that will allow us to focus our attention on the areas that will best help us grow and succeed.

We are beginning our new fiscal year auspiciously: A generous donation of equities contributed to the LWV of Miami-Dade County Education Fund combined with a significant increase in our membership makes us hopeful for the future.

The board has also approved the following activities: We will be holding our first Hot Topic luncheon on October 28th on the subject of health care reform. In January, our League will co-host a forum on the Hometown Democracy voter initiative with the Urban Environment League. In the spring, Annie Betancourt and Dorrit Marks will be heading our League's effort in hosting Columbian and Brazilian Fellows who will participate in the LWVUS Connecting Future Legislators with Civil Society project in conjunction with the U.S. Department of State.

More recently, the board's executive committee has approved our League's participation in the LWVUS Youth Voter Registration Initiative, in a project that will be coordinated by Voter Services Chair Gigi Pardo, yours truly, and former LWV M-D board member Dannie McMillon. We will be taking part in a nationwide effort to determine the most effective methods for registering high school seniors to help ensure that our nation's youth exercise their suffrage.

Finally, during its orientation sessions, the board identified a strong need to integrate our membership in all of our local League's efforts and initiatives. We decided to institute two measures to try to bring this about: To invite all members to join us at the board meetings which are held every other month, and to hold brief membership meetings before our issue forums. We hope you will join us!

*Terry A. Coble*

**WANTED!!!!**  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP**  
**STOP GERRYMANDERING**  
Please visit [www.fairdistrictsflorida.org](http://www.fairdistrictsflorida.org) or call

## Our League

### LWV of Miami-Dade County Board of Directors - 2009-10

**Terry Coble** - President  
**Dorrit Marks** - V.P. Administration  
**Annie Betancourt** - V.P. Program  
**Sherry Ulsh** - Treasurer  
**Caesar Phillips** - Secretary  
**Terry Coble** - Voter Editor  
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**Lourdes Diaz**  
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**Bobbie Mumford**  
**Grace O'Donnell**  
**Elizabeth Pines**  
**Sabrina Salomon**  
**Susan Windmiller**

**JOIN THE LWV M-D!**  
**SEE PAGE 4 FOR A MEMBER-**  
**SHIP APPLICATION!**

The **Miami-Dade Voter** is published every two months by the League of Women Voters of Miami-Dade County.

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## LWV M-D HOLDS 2009 ANNUAL MEETING - by Terry Coble



The new Board of the LWV of Miami-Dade County is sworn in by State Attorney Kathy Fernandez Rundle.

Supervisor of Elections Lester Sola. The new president and CEO of the Jackson Health System, Dr. Eneida Roldan presented the keynote speech, focusing on its expansion to include a network of hospitals and outpatient health care facilities, and the financial limitations that it is facing during this time of economic crisis. Many additional noted people were in attendance, including the mother of Miami Mayor Manny Diaz, and the two candidates for the Miami mayoral election, Tomas Regalado and Joe Sanchez.

On June 23, 2009, at 5:15 pm, the LWV of Miami-Dade County held its Annual Meeting at the Coral Reef Yacht Club in Coconut Grove. The following new Board and officers were elected without opposition, Terry Coble, President, Dorrit Marks, Vice-President Administration, Annie Betancourt, Vice-President Program, Sherry Ulsh, Treasurer, Caesar Phillips, Secretary, and Gigi Pardo, Historian/Parliamentarian, and board members Maribel Balbin, Donna Ginn, Bobbie Mumford, Grace O'Donnell, Sabrina Salomon, and Susan Windmiller. Continuing as board members with unexpired terms were Karen Andre, Alina Becker, Fran Bohnsack, Lourdes Ferrer-Diaz, Julia Lopes and Elizabeth Pines.

Following a lovely reception and delicious refreshments, outgoing President Annie Betancourt presented the Marjorie Rankin award to Pinecrest Mayor Cindy Lerner and the JoAnne Hayes award to

## THE MIAMI-DADE LEAGUE'S LOCAL PROGRAM - by Annie Betancourt

At its 2009 Annual Meeting, the LWV of Miami-Dade County adopted an ambitious Local Program spanning five focus areas:

1. Good Government
  - Support citizen input in public hearings
  - Support Fair Districts Florida
  - Participate in state legislative activities of the LWV of Florida
2. Voter Services
  - Register voters and encourage participation in elections
  - Provide voter information to newly naturalized citizens
  - Work with the Supervisor of Elections to protect voting rights
  - Hold candidate forums on request
  - Hold issue forums on selected hot topics
3. Quality of Life
  - Educate on growth management and monitor the UDB
  - Participate in the CITT nominating committee
  - Support Living Wage efforts
  - Promote affordable housing in livable communities
  - Monitor the impact of the 2009 Working Waterfronts legislation
4. Family Issues
  - Promote an accessible quality health care system
  - Support quality public education
  - Support LWVUS on immigration reform
5. Growing our League
  - Increase the membership of the LWV of Miami-Dade County
  - Develop and implement a membership retention plan
  - Participate in the 2010 LWVUS Convention

## Membership: Our Lifblood



**Making  
Democracy  
Work**

**League of Women Voters  
Of Miami-Dade County**

**The League of Women Voters of Miami-Dade Wants You!**

The League of Women Voters has stood for good government for almost ninety years – no individual can take your place in helping us make democracy work. Since 1920, the League has worked at local, state and national levels to generate democratic conversation among members, educate the general public and policy makers on pressing issues, and take concerted action to bring about social change.

**The League of Women Voters is the most trusted not for profit organization in America. As such, League chapters are often called upon to convene community issue forums as well as host candidate debates.**

- The League is nonpartisan; we do not support or oppose candidates.
- The League registers and mobilizes people to vote.
- The League of Women Voters of Miami-Dade County is one of 25 local Leagues and two Member-at-Large Units functioning in 31 of Florida's 67 most populous counties, and one of 850 local Leagues nationwide. There are Leagues in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Hong Kong. In addition to the numerous grass roots efforts that local Leagues are known for, the League of Women Voters of Florida represents League positions in Tallahassee, while the League's National Lobby Corps represents League positions on Capitol Hill.

***"No chance, no destiny, no fate can circumvent or hinder or control the firm resolve of a determined soul."***  
**Carrie Chapman Catt, founder, the League of Women Voters.**

### **LWV of Miami-Dade County, Inc.**

5794 Bird Road - Box 146  
Miami, Florida 33155

Visit us on the Web!

[www.lwvmiamidade.org](http://www.lwvmiamidade.org)

## **JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2009 / 2010 TODAY!**

All League members receive The National Voter magazine, local and state publications, access to member information on the League website, alerts on breaking action on Capitol Hill and the State Legislature and significant discounts on publications, products, videos and other valuable resources. The Miami-Dade Chapter offers opportunities for everyone - ten hours a week to one hour a year! **Your voice matters!**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 35 STUDENT MEMBERSHIP                      \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT SOCIETY  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 65 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP                \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 IRON JAWED ANGELS  
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PHONE (DAYTIME) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (EVENING) \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks are payable to the League of Women Voters of Miami-Dade County, Inc.  
Membership dues are not deductible as a personal or business expense.  
Mail to: 5794 Bird Rd. #146 Miami, FL 33155 (305) 666-0186.**