



BENTON COUNTY DEMOCRATS' WORLD



VOLUME 9 NUMBER 1 JANUARY 2011 EILEEN REES, EDITOR



PROUD TO BE DEMOCRATS



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"I know you believe you understand what you think I said. I'm not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant."



These are words from a plaque that has hung in my office for years. Just a reminder that communication on a small scale or large is still one of the most complex issues between people everywhere. Many, if not most, problems in our nation can be traced back to this one issue. Logical people understand that each person is ultimately responsible for his/her own actions but logic also tells us that every person, rational or not, is influenced by words and actions

It is with heavy hearts that we begin a new year, wondering how any person could have such hatred in his heart to commit the slaughter just witnessed in Arizona. We may never know what prompted this horrific act of violence and there are probably multiple answers. According to information already discovered, the way this crime was planned and the probable relation of recent vitriolic statements by very public figures, it is easy to form the conclusion that there could be a connection.

In this case it took a strong and courageous sheriff to open the dialogue that may, just maybe, lead the American public to denounce some politicians, media personalities, and a self-proclaimed demagogue as the irresponsible threats to our nation that they are. If there is any light at all here, it is that numerous members of Congress have made comments that lead me to believe they finally realize that as leaders of a democracy they are accountable to all members of society.

No one, a rising politician, a federal judge, a young child, should have to lose their life to make this point. All the victims who suffered losses and injuries shall surely remain in our thoughts and prayers. But that is not enough. While the authorities sort out the legal ramifications, the rational and caring people of

the nation need to stand tall and demand a return to social and political civility. That includes all of us.

We can't do much to alleviate the suffering of those involved in this incident directly but we can continue, as I believe we have all along, to be an example to those around us of what grace and true patriotism really should be. We can speak up when confronted with bigotry, slander, and hatred. We can continue to promote Democratic ideals right here in our own back yard. In this New Year, let us strive to find a voice to show support to the leaders who promote sanity and civility and denounce those who want control through anger and hatred.

Sharon Carter



OUR NEXT MEETING

JANUARY 24, 2011 CLARION 11:15

JOYCE HALE



SAFETY ISSUES CONCERNING THE FAYETTEVILLE SHALE PLAY

Natural gas has been promoted as a "bridge" fuel in the search for a way to transition from dependence on foreign oil to domestically produced renewable energy. But environmental concerns could offset projected economic benefits. Hale will address these important issues. See Pg. 3 of this newsletter to learn more about our speaker & her program.

For reservations for the \$12 lunch buffet, contact Carole Westby at 876-2178 or westby@cox.net by January 20th.



JOYCE HALE WILL DISCUSS

THE FAYETTEVILLE SHALE PLAY AT OUR JANUARY MEETING

While natural gas production has been active in the Fayetteville Shale Play for about 6 years, many of us may be unfamiliar with the process & its impact on landowners & communities. A new horizontal fracturing process capable of releasing gas from shale formations has only recently been developed. The safety of this process is the big question drawing media attention. Here is our chance to become better informed! Hale, a graduate of the University of Arkansas with a degree in Business Marketing, has been active in community affairs since she & her husband retired to Fayetteville, & is currently president of the League of Women Voters of Washington County. Her special interests focus on water conservation issues & educating the public about the development of the Fayetteville Shale Play.



OUR NEW WEBMASTER - EMILY NEAVILLE

Emily Neaville, one of our newest members has graciously volunteered to become webmaster to continue the great efforts made our reality. Once thanks, Bill!



graciously to become to continue the of Bill Millager who site become a again, many Emily has recently returned to her native Benton

County after three years with the Union of Concerned Scientists in Washington, D.C. She welcomes your input. Contact her at eneaville@gmail.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE OFTEN! BCDEMS.ORG



DUES



Dues for 2011 are now DUE! Bring your checkbook to our January meeting or send to: Jerry Gail Brown, 22934 Sunrise Cove Rd.,Garfield AR72732



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OUR BCD 2011 CALENDAR

- January 24
- February 28
- March 28
- April 25
- May 23
- June 27
- July 25
- No meeting-BCDCC Rally
- September 26
- October 24
- November 28
- No December meeting

NEXT MOVIE PREVUE FUNDRAISER MARCH 8TH

Tickets are must be advance. contact In this bold timeless, story by actors Mia Wasikowska, Michael Fassbender, Jamie Bell, and Judi Dench are featured.



now available & purchased in See website for the person in your area. new version of a classic romantic Charlotte Bronte,