

# BENTON COUNTY DEMOCRATS' WORLD

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 3 MARCH 2014 EILEEN REES, EDITOR

PROUD TO BE DEMOCRATS

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Good News! We now have three Democratic candidates running for the AR House of Representatives from Benton County. Let's all give them our support as it will not be easy to run as a Democrat. As your President, I'm pleased to inform you that we have been able to contribute \$2000 to each of these people for the primary election! They are: Grimsley Graham in the 94th, Leah Williams in the 93rd, and Tom McClure in the 96th! This was made possible because of all of your contributions and attendance at movie fund raisers over the past three years. We will be asking for more funds to support these three. In addition, we have been able to be generous in donations to campaigns of Mike Ross, for Governor; John Burkehalter, for lieutenant Governor; and Susan Inman, for Secretary of State. Thank you.

The Board is proposing that all who are able give the AR Tax Credit (which is a completely deductible amount) of \$100 per couple; \$50 per individual to our club, the BCDems. If everyone who is able to make this donation that comes right off your taxes, for 2013 gives prior to April 15, they can do so again after 4/15 for the 2014 year. This would greatly help to replenish our treasury for the General election. Think about it and give as much as you can. We hope to help the Central Committee fund an office in a central location in Benton County once the fall elections are nearer.

More good news! According to a recent Gallup survey released March 10, 2014, the rate of uninsured Americans has now

reached its lowest level since 2009. Over 4 million people have enrolled in private coverage, that's down to 15.9% from the 2013 peak of 18% uninsured. ([www.thinkprogress.org/person/gettingcovered](http://www.thinkprogress.org/person/gettingcovered)) It's obvious that the Affordable Care Act is working! It's meeting one of it's goals to get the uninsured covered with Health Insurance. I guess that's why when I spent about 20 minutes sitting in a Doctor's waiting room with FOX TV station blasting in the background, the commentators (or pontificators) on that station mentioned negatives about Obamacare at least 20 times. One might get the idea that I never watch FOX!

Marge Boyer



## OUR NEXT MEETING

March 24, 2014

Golden Corral

11:00am - 1:00pm

## DR. LISA CORRIGAN on GENDER AND LANGUAGE



Asst. Prof. of Communication and  
Director of Gender Studies Program

Be sure to see Pg. 3 for more about  
our speaker & reservations!

**BENTON COUNTY DEMOCRATS**  
**Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**February 24, 2014**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The meeting was called to order by President Marge Boyer and began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Thurman Metcalf. After lunch, Grimsley Graham introduced the speaker, candidate for Lt. Governor, John Burkhalter. He spoke about his background and how it has uniquely prepared him for this position. He also shared issues that will be the foundation of his campaign and how we can help him get this message out here in NWA. There was a brief Q&A session after his comments.

Marge started the business meeting announcing that all three announced Democratic candidates in our area were in attendance: Leah Williams, for State House District 93, Grimsley Graham, for State House District 94, and Tom McClure, for State House District 96. Marge also reminded everyone that blue bowl donations would be split between all the candidates attending the meeting and encouraged members to continue to donate generously to help their campaigns. Marge shared that Leah and Grimsley both have received \$2,000 donations from BCDems.

The next meeting will be March 24<sup>th</sup>, 11 am- 1 pm at the Golden Corral and the speaker will be Lisa Corrigan from University of Arkansas. Her topic will be "Gender and Language". So far 80 members have renewed their membership out of 250 on the roster. Marge requested members attending to assist in getting others to renew and to help increase our membership. Grimsley thanked BCDems for the donation to his campaign, Linda Farrell made an announcement concerning Planned Parenthood efforts, and Suzanne Jessup gave a BCDCC update.

There were announcements for upcoming fundraisers to benefit Leah Williams' campaign. Details are being finalized. Bill Beck shared that the movie, The Monuments Men, was a success with 111 people attended and brought in \$600+. Marge mentioned that Thurman Metcalf still has Boomerang Car Wash tickets to sell. She also encouraged members to bring in non-perishable items to be donated to Samaritan Center.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15pm

Respectfully submitted,  
 Pamela McCorkle Buncum, Secretary

<b>Assets as of 1/1/2014:</b>	
General Operating Fund	\$8,622.46
Dedicated Democrats Fund	\$ 361.00
Campaign Contributions Fund	\$ 0.00
<b>Assets as of 2/1/2014:</b>	
General Operating Fund	\$4,591.07
Dedicated Democrats Fund	\$ 361.00
Campaign Contributions Fund	\$5,000.00
<b>Assets as of 3/1/2014:</b>	
General Operating Fund	\$5,242.24
Dedicated Democrats Fund	\$ 361.00
Campaign Contributions Fund	\$ 700.00
<b>JANUARY Income and Expenses</b>	
<b>General Operating Income for January 2014:</b>	
\$1,072.27	
Blue Bowls	\$ 145.27
Membership Dues	\$ 470.00
Movies	\$ 457.00
<b>General Operating Expenses for Jan. 2014:</b>	
\$5,000.00	
Newsletter	\$103.68
<b>Campaign Contributions Fund Income for January 2014: \$5,000.00</b>	
<b>Transfer from General Operating Fund</b>	
\$5,000.00	
<b>FEBRUARY Income and Expenses</b>	
<b>General Operating Income for February 2014: \$2,614.27</b>	
Blue Bowls	\$ 216.27
Donations	\$ 20.00
Membership Dues	\$ 250.00
Movies	\$ 914.00
Meetings	\$1,214.00
<b>General Operating Expenses for February 2014: \$1,963.10</b>	
Meetings	\$1,130.60
Movies	\$ 832.50
<b>Campaign Contributions Fund Expenses for February 2014: \$4,300.00</b>	
To Grimsley Graham	\$2,000.00
To Leah Williams	\$2,000.00
To Susan Inman	\$ 300.00



**REMEMBER TO FEED THE HUNGRY !**

 **OUR NEXT SPEAKER**



**Lisa Corrigan**, Assist. Professor & Director of Gender Studies Program at the Univ. of Arkansas, will share her expertise on “Gender and Language” with us at our next meeting on March 14th at 11:00am at The Golden Corral. She has written extensively, with articles appearing in various professional journals. She has a book under contract with the Univ. of Ala. Press, dealing with how prison politics has influenced the black liberation movement. Don't miss this excellent speaker! **Make your reservation by contacting Karen Smenner at [mksas0119@gmail.com](mailto:mksas0119@gmail.com) or 468-866-9906 by Thursday, March 21st**



**????? DO YOU KNOW ?????**  
that if you are unable to use the reservation you have made, BCDems still has to pay for your meal? We lost \$150 on our Feb. meeting because of no-shows! If you are a no-show, it would be appropriate to consider remitting the cost of your luncheon. Thank you!

**BCDEMS DONATIONS**   
 **SUPPORT CANDIDATES**

The following donations have been made:

Susan Inman - \$300

John Burkhalter - \$250 plus \$50 from Blue Bowls from Feb.

Tom McClure - Dist. 96 Ar House of Representatives - \$2000

In accordance with AR Ethics Commission Rules for PAC giving, the Blue Bowls donation will be held for the three other candidates until the primary is over, because we have given the maximum allowed per election to kick start their campaigns.



**REMEMBER TO FEED HUNGRY KIDS !**

Donations of food are gratefully accepted by the Samaritan Center to help provide Snack Packs for Kids. Please do your part in this important project! Bring a jar of peanut butter to the next meeting & it will delivered to the Samaritan Center by Suzanne Jessup or Sharon Carter .The kids will appreciate it!



Visit our website often - [bcdems.org](http://bcdems.org) - to learn about coming events sponsored by Democratic organizations in Benton County.