

Benton County Democrats' World

Volume 15

Issue 3

March 2016

Eunice Van Tuyl, President

Hal Spangenberg, Editor

BENTON COUNTY DEMOCRATS MARCH MEETING

March 28 Lunch: 11:00 am Meeting: 12:00 noon

Golden Corral, 2605 W. Pleasant Crossing, Rogers

Our program this month will be:

The program topic in March will be a review of the book, "America Ascendant" by Stanley Greenberg. He was one of the top pollsters and advisors for Pres. Bill Clinton, PM Tony Blair and Pres. Nelson Mandela.

I chose this book because I believe it's the most informative and insightful book on current politics in America. The exciting part of the book is that, after explaining the situation, Greenberg proposes a common sense strategy for the Democratic Party to win elections.

A couple of us who have read this book will share what we learned and then open it up for discussion by members. Tony Potochnik, V.P. Program Chair

Please make your reservations by Friday, March 25
Rusty1214@gmail.com

To: Rusty Masticola 479-855-9588 or

President's Letter

"The moment we begin to fear the opinions of others and hesitate to tell the truth that is in us, and from motives of policy are silent when we should speak, the divine floods of light and life no longer flow into our souls."

Elizabeth Cady Stanton

The Arkansas Primary Election has come and gone and we have voted for our preferred candidates, Presidential as well as state and local. Moving our date up to coincide with many other Southern states' primaries did, indeed, bring more importance, and thus more candidates' visits, to our state.

The turnout here ballooned as it has in most other states. The problem is that these increases were almost entirely due to those voting the Republican ticket in most states and in most states the number voting for the Democratic ticket actually decreased.

And thus we have our work clarified and cut out for us in the next several months.

I hear repeatedly from people that I meet who learn that Jim and I are Democrats that they thought that they were alone in this county.

We *must* overcome this tendency to invisibility.

When those around us pontificate on their Republican views, assuming that everyone present is in agreement, we must speak up to let them know that we are Democrats and so believe differently. Our Republican friends must learn that there are many Democrats among them. After all, *they* do not hesitate to expound on their views and so we, too, should be proud of who we are and what we stand for.

After all, why would we want to hide this? Hiding seems to imply guilt. We must find one another so that we may work together and present a united front. Let us look for other Democrats among all those we know so that we may act together and exert our influence on what happens at the local, state and national levels.

Vivent les Democrats!

Eunice VanTuyl, Pres.

February 22, 2016 General Meeting Golden Corral Restaurant – Rogers, AR

President Eunice Van Tuyl called the meeting to order at 12:00. She welcomed new attendees, guest speakers and nine visitors. Grimsley Graham led us in the pledge of allegiance.

Vice President Tony Potochnik introduced our guest speakers, Paul Bridges and Chris Griffen, who are running for Rogers District Court Judge. Mr. Bridges, the incumbent, has served as judge since 2012 where he implemented Project Reboot for the homeless and continues to support the Benton County Work Program. Mr. Griffen is the Prosecuting Attorney for Rogers and would like to reinstate Night Court where offenders could pay their fines or opt to do community service. They both encouraged us to get out and vote early.

Peyton Olson, who is in charge of his campaign for the 3rd and 4th democratic congressional district spoke on behalf of Bernie Sanders who is running for President. Pat Moran, an advocate for Hillary Clinton spoke in her behalf. Mr. Moran has been a lawyer for 31 years. He has worked with Mrs. Clinton and feels her intelligence and experience makes her the best candidate to be our next President.

Eunice thanked the speakers and continued with the business part of the meeting. Minutes were approved as read. The treasurers' report was approved by a motion from Bruce Portie and second by Tony Potochnik.

Eunice reported that the by-laws had been revised and corrected and entertained a motion that they be approved. Thurman Metcalf made the motion to accept the new by-laws, second by Hal Spangenberg. Motion passed unanimously.

Velva Bell announced a training session for our state budget on March 10-11 in Little Rock.

Thurman announced he is selling new car wash tickets for \$15.00. He also stated that the DPA will be selecting delegates to the National Convention on March 28 at 5:30 in Judge Bridges courtroom.

The Central Committee will be opening a Party Headquarters in Grimsley Grahams' District 94 sometime in June. This will be paid for by the proceeds from Little Flock picnic.

Eunice reminded everyone to get out and vote and told where the precincts were located. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00.

Respectfully Submitted by
Secretary Betty Cauldwell

Treasurers report

February 2016

Treasurer's Report

Starting Balance: \$2,246.73

Income:

Blue Bowls \$111.76

Dues \$280.00

Total \$391.76

Expenses:

web site & meetup \$248.94

Total \$248.94

Ending Balance: \$2,389.55

Submitted by:

Joel Ewing, Treasurer

Membership dues

Are a very important source of income, part of which is used to help our Democratic Candidates at election time. So if you have not renewed your membership for 2016 please fill out the application and mail it in, or better yet, bring it to the March meeting.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (home) _____ (Cell) _____

Email _____

Membership: ___single(\$20) _____Joint(\$30)

Newsletter mailed _____(10)optional

Make Checks payable to:

Benton County Democrats

And mail to:

P.O. Box 2258

Bentonville, AR 72712-2258

Or bring it to our March meeting