

Benton County Democrats' World

Volume 15

Issue 12

December 2016

Eunice Van Tuyl, President

Hal Spangenberg, Editor

No December meeting. Your Board wishes you all Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.. We look forward to seeing you at our January 2017 meeting

President's Letter

Happy Holidays to all of you. Hopefully, you've been able to put aside your dejected feelings about the election enough to enjoy this season. (Although I did receive a card from a friend who wants to put a black wreath on her door and leave it up for the next four years. I thought that was a great idea!)

We Democrats have a huge hole to dig out of and it will probably take us many years, so we must get to work immediately. At the November general meeting we discussed many ideas for actions we should undertake. Among them were:

- Slow global warming and climate change,
- Reverse the Citizens United decision,
- Increase women's involvement in the political process,
- Grow our own candidates by having them start on city councils or school boards,
- Make endorsements of our candidates so as to increase their visibility and name recognition,
- Increase OUR visibility through appearances on radio and TV as well as in print media,
- Track legislation and publicize it to our members so that we can fight for or against it,
- Improve acceptance and inclusion of minorities and minority religions by holding public events for all to become acquainted,
- Equalize voting districts by eliminating gerrymandering,
- Separate Church and State, and
- Eliminate the Electoral College.

Please consider these as we move into 2017 and let your board members know of other issues you think important. We will be discussing how to implement them in the months to come. We know that some have little chance because the power is now in Republican hands. But if we all get involved, if even in the smallest way, we **can** make a difference.

It's been great serving as your President for this last year and I appreciate all those who were willing to contribute to our party, including by voter registration, phone calls, working at the campaign headquarters, and serving on committees, among others. Richard Bland will be a great President for 2017 and I know we will all help him and our party in any way that we can.

Eunice

Report of November 28, 2016 General Meeting

President Eunice Van Tuyl called the meeting to order at 12:00. She welcomed new attendees, guests and visitors. Richard Bland led us in the pledge of allegiance.

Vice President Richard Bland introduced Judy Tobler, a professor from Northwest Arkansas Community College who discussed this year's election. Her presentation "How Did We Vote: Election Statistics" sparked lively conversations with questions and answers that followed.

The minutes and treasurer's reports were approved unanimously.

Eunice announced the Board Member nominees for 2017. They are President, Richard Bland and Vice President, David Cauldwell. All other positions will remain the same. Thurman Metcalf made the motion, second by James Farley to accept the nominees. Motion carried.

A thank you note was read from David Pryor who is recovering from a stroke. Eunice also thanked everyone for allowing her to serve as President this past year.

Thurman Metcalf reminded everyone he still has car wash tickets available for \$15.00.

Eunice opened a discussion about Goals for 2017. Suggestions were to elect at the local level, such as school boards, city councils, and to improve acceptance and inclusion of minorities. Also, everyone is encouraged to stay in contact with your local representatives. You can find your representatives email by going to arkleg.state.ar.us

Bill Beck presented Eunice with a present for her service as President 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26.

Respectfully Submitted by
Secretary Betty Cauldwell

President-Elect Trump Repeated Over and Over

“The election is rigged” He was right. Look who won!!

Treasurer's Summary for November 2016

Beginning Balance	\$655.68
Income	
Blue Bowls	\$95.35
Donations	\$44.00
Dues	\$400.00
Total	\$539.35
Expenses	
Meetings	\$21.16
Total	\$21.16
Ending Balance	\$1,173.87

Submitted by: Joel Ewing, Treasurer

Don't forget that it is MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL time.

Single membership is still \$20.00 and joint membership is \$30.00.

You can update your membership by check and mail to: Benton County Democrats

P.O. Box 2258, Bentonville, Ar., 72712-2258, or bring it to our January meeting.

Make checks payable to Benton County Democrats
Your membership helps us support local candidates

The following letter was posted in the San Diego California Union Tribune:

It's already started: Trickle-down Economics III. Big business is getting "their guys" in positions of government, to tighten the screws on the Middleclass, even more than Ronnie Reagan did. Bush II certainly favored the wealthy in his tax cuts and the wealthy, got nauseatingly wealthier. Now, Trump has brought his shell game to us, and assured us that we'd be smart to elect him, because EVERYONE will benefit "hugely" from Trump's omniscient mind, including his understanding of climate science.

The people who elected this "phony/fraud" (Romney's words) will someday feel the sting of being rooked or "snookered" . By then the "family farm" will have been sold, and all because we eagerly handed this "Wunderkind" our family car keys (and title).

For a decade, we watched the love affair between Berlusconi and Italy, and wondered how he clung to power. Wealth and Media Control were his magic handmaidens---just like

Trump

G. Lance Johannsen, Carlsbad, Ca.
