

Benton County Dems' World

<http://bcdems.org>

January 2018 – Eunice Van Tuyl, Editor



BC Dems will sponsor a private showing of *The Post*, starring Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep,

at 10 AM, Saturday, JANUARY 13TH

at the Rogers Towne Cinema, 621 N. 46th Street.

Tickets may be purchased at the door, beginning at 9:30 AM.

For more information, call 479-855-1872.

Dems' Events

Sat., Jan 13 6:00 – 8:00 PM Gusanos' Pizza Bella Vista	Chris Birch's Kick-Off
Sat. Jan 13 4:30 – 7:30 PM St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Rogers	Snackpack Soup Supper
Mon., Jan 15 9:30 AM	BC Dems' Board Mtg.
Tues., Jan 16 11:30 – 1:00 Western Sizzlin'	Wash. Co. Senior Democrats' Luncheon
Sun., Jan 21 12:00 – 2:00 PM Fayetteville Town Center	March to celebrate first anniversary of Women's March
Mon., Jan. 22 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Golden Corral, Rogers	BC Dems' Luncheon
Sun., Jan. 28 3:00 PM 4074 SW H St, Bentonville	Ozark Indivisible Mtg
Mon., Feb. 12 6:30 PM Guess Who? Event Center, Bentonville	Democratic Party of Benton Co Mtg
Tues., Feb. 20 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Wash. Co. Senior Democrats' Luncheon
Wed., Feb. 21 9:30 AM	BC Dems' Board Mtg.
Mon., Feb 26 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Golden Corral	BC Dems' Luncheon

JANUARY 22 MEETING

12:00: Speaker and Business

Lunch before, during or after

Golden Corral in Rogers at

2605 W. Pleasant Grove Crossing



Jon Comstock has been an attorney since 1976 and had a private practice for over 15 years, followed by an in-house counsel role at Wal-Mart for 18 years.

He subsequently served as a Circuit Court Judge in Benton County, having been appointed by the Governor to fill a position from which a judge retired early. He currently divides his time between “Comstock Conflict Resolution Services”, where he serves as a mediator in a wide variety of disputes; the University of Arkansas, where he is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Law, teaching multiple courses; and is engaged in various *pro bono* efforts in the area of criminal justice. He is an original member of Judicial Equality for Mental Illness (JEMI), which seeks to improve the mental health care provided to the incarcerated, and is a member of the NWA Prison Reentry Coalition. Currently, he is a candidate for Arkansas State Senate District 3.

Jon Comstock joins BCD Program Chair, Suzanne Miltich, to review Deborah Tannen’s book “The Argument Culture.” In this book, Tannen writes about how the adversarial nature of our society impacts our relationships, ability to solve problems, and public discourse in the press, politics, the law, and education. Tannen’s final chapters are used as a platform for looking at how we can move beyond the ‘argument culture’ to more constructive dialog in our public and private lives and especially conversations related to important issues impacting our lives.

Treasurer's Summary - November 2017

Beginning Balance	\$4,983.40
Income	
Blue Bowls	\$61.00
Dues	\$150.00
Other	\$2.00
Total	\$213.00
Expenses	
Publicity	\$20.00
Misc.	\$54.50
Total	\$74.50
Ending Balance	\$5,121.90

Treasurer's Summary - December 2017

Beginning Balance	\$5,121.90
Income	
Donations	\$20.00
Dues	\$160.00
Total	\$180.00
Expenses	
Publicity	\$10.00
Meetings	\$9.63
Total	\$19.63
Ending Balance	\$5,282.27

Submitted by Joel Ewing, Treasurer

2018 DUES

Now is the time to renew your dues for 2018. They are a bargain at \$20.00 per individual or \$30.00 per couple!

Receiving the newsletter via US Mail is an additional \$10.00 per year.

These may be sent to: BC Dems

P. O. Box 2258

Bentonville, AR 72712-2258

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

January 2018

Darkest Hour, a movie that explores Winston Churchill's early months in power, provides some insights that might be useful to Americans today. While I certainly do not suggest that the problems facing the United States in 2018 are as extreme as those facing Britain in 1940, I think it is important to recognize those that we are facing and apply some of the solutions that Britain applied at that earlier time.

Churchill came to power at a time when the rest of Western Europe was on the brink of falling under Nazi domination. Neither the United States nor the Soviet Union had yet entered the war. Franklin Roosevelt was sympathetic to the British cause, but isolationists still controlled Congress. Soviet dictator Stalin had signed a non-aggression pact with Germany's Hitler in 1939 and honored it until Hitler invaded the Soviet Union in June of 1941. Soon after Churchill became Prime Minister, France, along with the smaller nations such as Belgium and The Netherlands, fell into Nazi hands. All the west of the continent of Europe, except for a few small nations that clung to neutrality, answered to German or Italian conquerors. Britain stood alone.

Churchill was in some ways an unlikely man to become leader of a nation in such desperate straits. In a political career that included 64 years as a Member of Parliament, Churchill switched parties twice, but still served in several cabinet-level posts. Often irascible and sometimes unpredictable, he could be a difficult man to work with. But he had been perhaps the nation's most vocal critic of Prime Minister Chamberlain's policy of appeasement and was someone who could form a coalition government.

There were many real and potential divisions in British society in 1940. Politically, there were three strong parties, Conservative, Liberal, and Labor. Class distinctions were clear and strict. As effects of the Great Depression lingered, wealth was anything but equitably distributed. A clever politician could have used these divisions to his personal advantage. Churchill was a clever politician, but not a demagogue. He used his vast talent and experience for the benefit of the nation and the free world, but not for personal gain.

He worked to unite the country to work for victory. Two powerful tools were his speech-writing skills and his powerful oratory. These messages were not brief, impulsive, or random, but rather carefully crafted, clearly reasoned and persuasive. Unity of purpose was his goal, and, to a very large extent, he achieved it.

The *Darkest Hour* is a solid film that is well worth the time spent. I recommend it.

Richard A. Bland

Heartfelt thanks to Hal Spangenberg for the many years of service he has given this group as Newsletter Editor and Board Member. We extend best wishes to him as he returns to California where he will continue to serve the Democratic Party.

Congratulations

to member Myra Moran who has been named by our governor to serve on the 2018 Planning Commission and its Density Review Committee.

BENTON COUNTY DEMS
November 27 2017 General Meeting
Golden Corral, Rogers, AR

President Richard Bland called the meeting to order at 12:00. He welcomed new attendees, guests and visitors. Democratic prospects for the 2018 primary present were Jon Comstock, Senate District 3 (Cecile Bledsoe, incumbent), Chris Birch for Representative District 92 (Hendren), and Celeste Williams, for Representative District 95 (McCollum, incumbent).

Rusty Masticola led us in the pledge of allegiance.

David Cauldwell introduced speaker Aaron Cash, who spoke on concerns of immigrants in Northwest Arkansas in view of the ruling that deferred action on undeclared and childhood arrivals lacking legal documentation could end March 5, 2018. The deportation of 5% of NWA population could have significant negative effects on the economy in the region. The Herrera Law Associates of Rogers is working with many of those seeking waivers from the ruling.

The minutes and treasurer's reports for the October meetings were approved unanimously.

President Richard Bland reviewed the slate of officers for 2018 as presented by the nominating committee in October. They are Richard Bland, President, Suzanne Miltich, Vice President, Diana Kolman, Recording Secretary and David Cauldwell, Treasurer. No additional nominations were made from the floor. The membership present voted to elect the slate of officers nominated.

President Bland announced Board changes as follows: Joel Ewing, Social Media Chair, Betty Cauldwell, Reservations Chair, Jeri Cooper, Corresponding Secretary, and Gaye Bland, Membership Chair. Lauren Galle will continue to serve with Joel on the Social Media Committee. A special thanks to Rusty Masticola was given for her many years of handling reservations.

The (DPBC) Democratic Party of Benton County will hold their monthly business meeting, Monday, Jan. 8. Social hour begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is held at Guess Who? Event room, 214 SE Walton Blvd. Bentonville, AR.

Bill Beck announced the possible movie fundraiser, "The Post" starring Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep in January. Tentatively scheduled for Sat. Jan. 13 at 10:00 a.m. at the Rogers Malco Town Center. Tickets go on sale at 9:30 a.m. for a \$15.00 donation.

President Bland reminded everyone to renew membership now for 2018.

Betty Cauldwell, Eunice Van Tuyl, and Diana Kolman have volunteered to jointly chair the proposed Bean Dinner project and are in the process of finding a speaker and venue.

Richard announced that he has electronic copies of the "Benton County Guide to Elected Offices" for anyone interested in running for a political office.

Celeste Williams, who is running for District 95 legislative seat will have a formal kick-off Thursday, November 30, 6:00 p.m. at Las Fajitas in Bella Vista. Jon Comstock held his kickoff for State Senate District 3 on November 18.

In addition to the movie fundraiser on Jan. 13 for the BC Dems', Thurman Metcalf has sent notice for the Annual Soup Supper to support area school kids' snackpaks. It will be held at St Andrews Episcopal Church, 824 W. Oak. St. Rogers, on Monday, Jan. 15 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. This project is supported by Democrats in Benton County.

Richard reminded everyone to send requests for cards for the rest of this month to Suzanne Miltich. After January 1 requests will be sent to Jeri Cooper. Also, blue bowl donations go to our treasurer, and tips for the server may be left on the table

Submitted by Temp. Secretary Suzanne Jessup. Corrections made by Betty Cauldwell

2018 Benton County Dems Officers & Committee Chairs

Position	Name	E-mail	Home #
President	Richard Bland	rabland@cox.net	631-9818
Vice-President	Suzanne Miltich	suzanne@dhsc.com	925-6275
Treasurer	David Cauldwell	dcauldwl@gmail.com	479-721-2747
Recording Secretary	Diana Kolman	dkolman@cox.net	479-903-3532
Past President	Eunice Van Tuyl	etuyl@sbcglobal.net	855-7771
Membership Chair	Gaye Bland	GKBland@cox.net	631-9818
Social Media Chair	Joel Ewing	jcewing.bcdems@cox.net	268-4231
Social Media	Lauren Galle	bvlauren@gmail.com	855-4348
Newsletter Chair	Eunice Van Tuyl	etuyl@sbcglobal.net	855-7771
Corresponding Secretary	Jerri Cooper	jerricooper@aol.com	640-1343