



September 2019

David Bernstein, Editor

Benton County Dems' World

Upcoming Events

Downton Abby: The Movie

Sat., Sept 21

10:00 AM

BC Dems Fundraiser

Rogers Town Cinema

Mon., Sept 23

11:00 – 12:00 Lunch / Social Time

12:00 – 1:00 Meeting

BC Dems Luncheon – (4th Monday)

Golden Corral Rogers

Sat., Sept 28

Little Flock Family Fun Day & Picnic

Noon - 3:00 pm

Democratic Party of Benton County

[Donations and Tickets Here](#)

Little Flock Park, Little Flock

Mon., Oct 14

6:00 PM

Democratic Party of Benton Co – (2nd Monday).

Mimi's Cafe

Tues., Oct 15

1:30 PM

NWA Senior Democrats' Luncheon – (3rd Tuesday)

Western Sizzlin'

Mon., Oct 28

11:00 – 12:00 Lunch / Social Time

12:00 – 1:00 Meeting

BC Dems' Luncheon

Golden Corral Rogers

This Month's Speaker

Kaci Churchill

Founding Member of NWA Moms Demand Action

Kaci Churchill, originally from Kansas City, Missouri, has called various towns across Northwest Arkansas home for several years. She attended **Northwest Arkansas Community College** and the **University of Arkansas**, where she studied Sociology and Criminal Justice. Currently residing in **West Bella Vista**, she works as a substitute teacher in the Gravette School district and is raising three young feminists. **She was a founding leader of the Benton County Moms Demand Action group in 2017.** Kaci is an avid baker, a (cheap) wine enthusiast, and great appreciator of a very rare few minutes of quiet.



Sept. 24 is National Voter Registration Day

What It's All About

Every year millions of Americans find themselves unable to vote because they miss a registration deadline, don't update their registration, or aren't sure how to register. National Voter Registration Day wants to make sure everyone has the opportunity to vote. On this day, volunteers and organizations from all over the country will "hit the streets" in a single day of coordinated field, technology, and media efforts. **National Voter Registration Day seeks to create broad awareness of voter registration opportunities** to reach tens of thousands of voters who may not register otherwise.

Find out how you can get involved at <https://nationalvoterregistrationday.org/>



The President's Memo

Help Monitor Our Elections



It has recently been revealed that Russia tried to access the voter rolls of, not a few, but all 50 states during the 2016 election and three were actually penetrated. Although there is no evidence that anything was perpetrated upon them, it is clear the Russians will be redoubling their efforts to influence the 2020 election. There *is* already evidence of this. In the last four years, they will have made significant technological progress and we are facing a dangerous situation. Due to all the publicity about what happened, other nations will be emboldened to try the same.

The leadership from the White House regarding this threat has been to do nothing and, thanks to Mitch McConnell's refusal to bring legislation aimed at fortifying our equipment and procedures to the floor of the Senate for a vote, we are in a precarious position.

Fortunately, here in Arkansas, it is a requirement that there be a paper trail of all votes cast, allowing for validation of vote totals. Unfortunately, 13 states do not have any means to do so!

Beyond that, what can we do to oversee the process locally? We can station Democrats as poll workers and poll watchers to keep an eye on what happens at each polling site. There are only four states that do not require workers of more than one party at the polls and the great majority require equal numbers. Arkansas is one of those four. Many of our teams here are made up solely of Republicans and this can lead to lax attention to the rules, one of which is chatting about political views among themselves. As one of our members noted, when there is someone of the opposite party present, most of this slackness disappears.

Let's accomplish this. The Elections Commission is seeking additional workers. Their number is 271-1049. The day that one works and the day of training are both paid. This is something many of us *can* do.



Train to Become a Poll Worker



The political party composition of Benton County poll workers is significantly skewed with Democrats underrepresented. Please consider exercising your civic involvement by becoming a poll worker.

Follow the link below to apply and submit your application. Mandatory training is scheduled for early January so submit your application ASAP!

<https://bentoncountyar.gov/election-commission/wp-content/themes/bentoncounty/documents/sites/14/2019/02/Election-Commission-Job-Application.pdf>



BC Dems Movie Fundraiser

Sat, Sept 21,
10 am
Rogers Town Cinema

Tickets \$15
contact Bill Beck
855-1872

Online credit-card ticket purchase is also available [here](#)
for \$15.76**
(check-in with Bill Beck from 9:30 to 9:55 am at the theater)

Tickets may also be purchased with cash or check from Bill Beck
at the theater, but advanced purchase is appreciated.

(** includes \$0.76 processing)

Candidates for BC Dems Executive Committee

Walter Hinojosa

Candidate for Executive Vice President

My name is Walter Hinojosa and I am writing to you because I can't be at this month's club meeting. I am a Democrat without prefix or suffix or cash...to paraphrase someone from my home state of Texas! I am old enough to be cynical about our current political predicament, but remain steadfastly sarcastic, instead!

Politics began for me in 1960 when I was 10 years old and passing out JFK emery boards in Houston, Texas. Since then, I have held more political offices and done more campaigns than I can remember. For example, for a decade I served as Party Secretary of the Texas Democratic Party.

What drives me today to seek the VEEP position of our club is to do my part in fixing the mess we are in in 2020. Since 1960, every four years this little Chicken Little has sounded the alarm, "the sky is falling!"...THIS TIME I REALLY MEANT IT!

I was born in Houston, but I got to Arkansas as quickly as I could. I am a Hispanic Irishman. My dad's first ancestor to the New World, Francisco de Hinojosa came here from Spain in 1522. My mom's Irish ancestors didn't get here until 1723.

I am retired now, but my profession was that of Ignorance Fighter, often a first responder! I battled ignorance in the classroom, leaving that battlefield to take up the challenge of hand-to-hand combat with ignorance in Texas' state legislature. For two dozen years I served first as the Legislative Director for the state's teacher's union, the Texas AFT and then as the Legislative and Political Director for all of labor in Texas.

In 2007 I returned to the classroom as Adjunct Professor of Politics at St. Edward's University in Austin. I taught there for 2 years until we moved to our hunk o'heaven on Lake Brittany in Bella Vista. My current and lovely wife, Sally and I have been here for a dozen years. She's a painter and gee you should see the walls in our home!

For eight years I taught American Government at NWACC. My course was fondly sub-titled, "The Gospel According to Walt", but I re-retired in May. Once upon a time, I served as Vice-Chair of the Benton County Party. I serve as Treasurer of the Hispanic Caucus of the Democratic Party. And, I am President of the NWA Central Labor Council.

If you do choose me as your VEEP, my goal is to work with Julia and the club to do our part in ending the Reign of Error that began in 2016!! Please vote for me or otherwise, I will have to find other avenues in order to continue to "shoot the finger" at Republicans!

Cordially,

Walter Hinojosa

Deborah "Deb" Ostas
Candidate for Board Secretary

Deborah Ostas (Deb) comes from a long line of Democrats dating back to her grandparents, immigrants from Czechoslovakia who proudly voted for FDR. Deb spent most of her 40-year career teaching outside Austin, Texas, working with minority students. She retired to Bella Vista in 2015.

Currently, she works as an adjunct instructor at NWACC and is an active member of the Northwest Arkansas Writers' Guild. Deb believes that after Donald Trump the biggest problem in the world today is the inequitable distribution of wealth. She lives on Lake Windsor with two dogs and a cat.



Tim Boyer
Candidate for Board Treasurer

I have been a Social Studies teacher, a commissioned officer in the USAF, and an Adult Education Director for Pulaski County Special School District, and Benton County since 1979, retiring from NWACC in 1995.

I am a fiscal conservative and a social liberal and have characterized myself as a political independent until the 2000 elections. What has happened to our government over the two most recent Republican administrations sickens, frightens, and angers me?



Little Flock Family Fun Day & Picnic

Saturday, September 28, 12-3 p.m.

Fellow Democrats:

The Democratic Party Benton County invites you to sponsor and attend the annual Little Flock Democratic Family Fun Day & Picnic on Saturday, September 28, 2019, from noon to 3:00 pm at the Little Flock Park next to LF City Hall. The Little Flock Picnic is a Democratic tradition dating back over 50 years and is one of the DPBC's biggest fundraising events of the year.

We are in grateful appreciation of your strong and continuous support of this important event. We are already seeing many wonderful Democrats announcing their candidacy for the 2020 election. The funding raised by the DPBC goes to assist our candidates, the Democratic Headquarters, and budgeted expenses. Realizing that many

candidates at all levels are asking for donations, we ask for your help to continue building the DPBC. Being “all politics is local”, we take this commitment to the party seriously as we realize that the future of the Democratic Party of Arkansas rests with Northwest Arkansas relative to our rapidly changing demographics.

Thank You for your support and commitment to the Little Flock Family Fun Day & Picnic.

Bring a chair and join us at this catered event. There is a beautiful new playground for the kids and we will have a bouncy for the kids as well. We ask for your help as we work to uphold the principles and values of the Democratic Party.

You have several options to purchase your tickets or sponsorship:

1. [Use this link to jump directly to purchase tickets](#) for this event. You will be directed to the account options.
2. Individual tickets are \$15.00 each with kids under 12 free or sponsorships can be purchased by visiting our website www.democraticpartybentoncounty.org and click on “Events” then copy-paste site into your browser.
3. FB account www.facebook.com/democraticpartybentoncounty, then click “Events” and click “tickets”.

For more info please call Larry at 479-381-7443 or email Larry at bentonvc@arkdems.org.

Thank You all for your support to build a better Arkansas and America.

Larry Concannon and the DPBC Executive Board

Democratic Party Benton County

Images From Aug 24 Voter Registration Training

By The League of Women Voters

We are organizing another voter registration training in Spanish (led by the League of Women Voters) tentatively scheduled for the morning of October 26th at 10 AM. Venue is

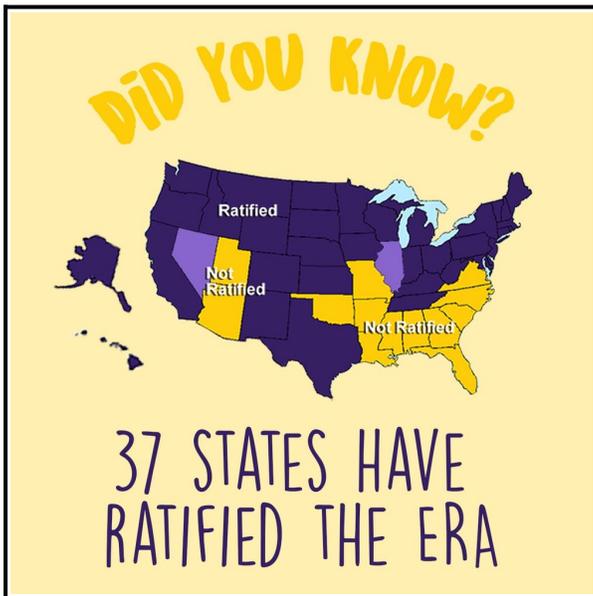
[First Christian Church](#) (Disciples of Christ)
Rogers, AR

For more information contact Julia at JKBBentonCounty@gmail.com





The ERA Status



The 15 *states* that did *not* ratify the Equal Rights Amendment before the 1982 deadline extension set by Congress were "Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia."¹ Since the 1982 deadline, two additional states have approved the amendment: Nevada in 2017 and Illinois in 2018. It is not completely clear whether those ratifications count or whether Congress had the authority to set an arbitrary deadline, or what. If they do count, only one more state ratification is needed to reach the required 3/4 count of 38 states. There is an equalrightsamendment.org site on the web that advises people in the remaining states to contact their U.S. Senators, but that advice makes no sense. If the approval process is still pending, it is in the hands of the 13 remaining State Legislative bodies,

one of which is Arkansas, not any elected Federal officials from the state. **In Arkansas, one would expect any appeal made to the current State Legislature would fall on deaf ears. We need first to change the makeup of the Arkansas legislature.**

Should one more of the 13 remaining state legislatures approve the ERA, then there will probably be a protracted legal challenge as to whether the Congress had any authority under the Constitution to place any termination date to the approval process (the Constitution implies the process is open-ended), or whether the 5 states (Nebraska, Tennessee, Idaho, Kentucky, and South Dakota) that subsequently rescinded their ratification after first ratifying the ERA are allowed to do so -- the Constitution only seems to provide for counting States that have ratified.

¹<https://www.equalrightsamendment.org/era-ratification-map>

A Call For Non-Perishable Food

**NORTHWEST
ARKANSAS**

**FOOD
BANK**

Feeding Northwest
Arkansas for 30 years



Our November BCDems general meeting will feature a speaker from the Northwest Arkansas Foodbank.

We are asking for donations of non-perishable food. You can bring your donation to the September, October, and November meetings. Of course, if you prefer checks will also be gladly accepted.

General Meeting Minutes

BENTON COUNTY DEMS

August 26, 2019 - General Meeting

Golden Corral, Rogers, AR

President Eunice VanTuyl called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon. She began the meeting by welcoming new members and visitors.

Katy Young led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Julia apologized to the group because the scheduled speaker, Austin Ross of Planned Parenthood, was not able to attend. However, she said there will be a fundraiser for Planned Parenthood, led by Dr. Brandon Hall, Oct. 26. Anyone wanting tickets should see Julia.

Eunice reported the passing of long-time Democratic supporter and advocate Myra Moran. Myra's obituary indicated memorials in her name should go to the Rogers Public Library. Eunice passed around a basket for donors to make donations to the Library in Myra's memory. If members wish to make contributions at a later date, they should send their donations directly to Rogers Public Library in memory of Myra Moran. Checks should be made to the library.

The minutes and the treasurer's report for July were approved as submitted.

The nominations committee recommends the following slate of officers:

Julia Bailey – President

Walter Hinojosa – Vice President

Tim Boyer – Treasurer



The club by-laws require that anyone assuming an office be in attendance at a minimum of five meetings during the previous year. As Walter was working last year, he did not meet this requirement. Judith Bernstein moved this by-law requirement be temporarily suspended in Walter's case so he may fill the office of vice president next year. Joel Ewing seconded the motion, and it passed.

Eunice asked if anyone would be willing to fill the secretary position. Deb Ostay volunteered, and her name was added to the officer slate for next year.

Eunice thanked the members of the nominating committee for their work.

Announcements:

- **Next Month's Speaker:** Julia announced next month's speaker will be Kaci Churchill from Moms Demand Action. Kasey was present at today's meeting, and she told the group she is looking forward to bringing her group's message to BC Dems.
- **Newsletter issues:** For some club members who have Cox internet, their newsletters are going directly to their spam folders. Joel has struggled with this issue, and his advice for those people experiencing this problem is to create a new g-mail account and have the newsletter go to this account.
- **Poll Workers:** Julia passed around a list for people to sign if they are interested in becoming a poll worker. Workers must undergo training, and they are paid for both the training and the time they work. Carol Bobek suggested anyone having questions about voter registration regulations should go directly to the Secretary of State's office, 1-800-482-1127, or sos.arkansas.gov. Also, people may register to be a poll worker by contacting either Shelly or Kim at the County Clerk's Office, 479-271-1049.
- **Movie Fundraiser:** Bill Beck reminded everyone the next movie fundraiser will be Sept. 21, 10:00 a.m., at the Rogers Towne Cinema. The movie will be "Downton Abbey," and tickets will be \$15.00.
- **Digital Sales of Political Memorabilia:** Eunice reminded members they may donate meaningful political, memorabilia to be sold online. All money made will go to BC Dems.
- **Democratic Party of Benton County:** Larry Concannon reported the following:
 - Thirty-five people attended the recent Voter Registration workshop sponsored jointly by DPBC and BC Dems.
 - DPBC had a booth at the Benton County Fair.
 - The Little Flock picnic will be Sept. 28 from noon until 3:00. The theme will be "Family Day."
 - Several DPBC officer positions are currently open: treasurer, state committee member, president. Resumes are now being accepted for these offices.
- **Donations Needed:** Thurman Metcalf asked for donations of black/white paperback books for Benton County jail inmates. Linda Farrell asked for donations of backpacks or other suitable containers for use by homeless at the Fayetteville homeless shelter.
- **Celebration of Women's Equality Day:** Eunice noted that today is the 100 year anniversary of the adoption of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote. She further pointed out that to date, the Equal Rights Amendment has not been ratified by enough states. A list of states which have not yet ratified the ERA will be included in the next newsletter.

- **Steve Womack Town Hall:** Congressman Steve Womack will host a town hall meeting Wednesday, Aug. 28, at 5:30 at the Rogers Adult Wellness Center. Linda Farrell said a group of women will protest by standing together dressed in all black. She welcomed anyone to join them.

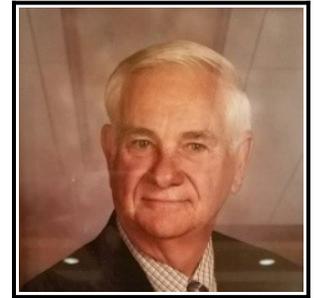
The next meeting is Sept. 23, 11:00 a.m., at the Golden Corral. The speaker will be Kaci Churchill from Moms Demand Action.

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Diana Kolman, Secretary

Treasurer's Summary August 2019

by David Cauldwell, Treasurer



Beginning Balance: \$5,663.63

INCOME:

Blue Bowls \$126.00
 Dues \$40.00
 Movie Tickets \$479.57

Total Income: \$645.57

Ending Balance: \$6,281.85

EXPENSES:

Regular Meeting - FB Ad \$9.36
 Domain Name Expense \$17.99

Total Expenses: \$27.35

2019 Benton County Dems Officers & Committee Chairs

| Position | Name |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Eunice Van Tuyl |
| Vice-President | Julia K. Bailey |
| Treasurer | David Cauldwell |
| Recording Secretary | Diana Kolman |
| Past President | Richard Bland |
| Membership Chair | Gaye Bland |
| Social Media Chair | Joel Ewing |
| Newsletter Chair | David Bernstein |
| Publicity Chair | Jerri Cooper |
| Corresponding Secretary | Linda Lavis |
| Reservations Chair | Betty Cauldwell |