

David Bernstein, Editor

Upcoming Events

Mon., January 25

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Meeting

Will Be Held Online

Please be sure to [visit the proposed changes to our bylaws](#) as we will be voting on their adoption in this month's meet.

Virtual General Meetings Hosted on Zoom Until Further Notice.

Topic: BC Dems General Meeting

Date & Time: **January 25, 2021, 12:00 PM** Central Time (US and Canada)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 880 0722 8858

Password: 908353

Join Zoom Meeting by clicking the URL from your device, or dialing into the call number below.

(312) 626-6799

Our January Speaker

Judith Tavano, M.A., SHRM-SCP, SPHR

"Who Elected Our President? A Generational Review of 2020 General Election Results."

Judith Tavano has been studying generational dynamics, diversity, and theory for the past 20 years. She has seen the Boomers age, Xers struggle to find their place, Millennials distrust, and Generation Z, our Post Millennials, rise up and find their voice. She has examined two presidential elections and one mid-term election through a generational lens, and over the past several months, Judith has begun studying the most recent (yet-to-be-named) generation and how the 2020 pandemic will shape their lives as they mature.

Judith is a graduate and postgraduate of Simmons University, Boston, a long time human resource professional and consultant, a retiree of the University of Arkansas, a nationally recognized generations scholar, an active advocate for veterans in the workplace, and the daughter of two extraordinary members of the Greatest Generation.



The President's Memo

*History says, don't hope
On this side of the grave.
But then, once in a lifetime
The longed-for tidal wave
Of justice can rise up,
And hope and history rhyme.*
— Seamus Heaney

On the eve of Inauguration Day, we wholeheartedly look forward to a restoration of our nation's dignity and decency. We look to a Biden/Harris Administration that acknowledges and acts to heal the devastation and cruelty endured over the last four years. We will welcome a government (comprised of qualified, competent professionals that look like America) to help us face many formidable challenges ahead. We will do this under the threat of a vile, autocratic insurgency brought on by Trump's supporters and enablers within the Republican Party. We will do this by upholding truth and decency within our everyday civic life and expect it from our politicians and civic leaders. And we look forward to upholding our democratic values by supporting our Benton County Democratic candidates.



Our speaker program for 2021 will cover some of the opportunities and challenges we anticipate for the next election cycle. If you have yet to join or renew your Benton County Dems membership for 2021, please do so now by following this link <https://www.bcdems.org/membership.html>

Thank you for all your support during these challenging times and we look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events this year.

Julia K. Bailey

Julia K Bailey

January 19, 2021

Board Member Spotlights

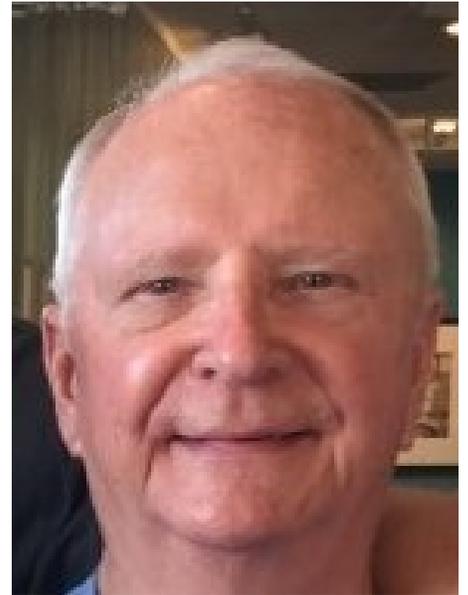
Deborah Ostas (Deb) comes from a long line of Democrats dating back to her grandparents, immigrants from Czechoslovakia who proudly voted for FDR. Deb spent most of her 40-year career teaching outside Austin, Texas, working with minority students. She retired to Bella Vista in 2015. Currently, she works as an adjunct instructor at NWACC and is an active member of the Northwest Arkansas Writers' Guild. Deb believes the biggest problem in the world today is the inequitable distribution of wealth. She lives on Lake Windsor with two dogs and a cat.



Anna Knecht moved to Bentonville from Memphis two-and-a-half years ago and instantly fell in love with the people and community. When not working her day job as the Content Marketing Manager at Dorel Industries, Anna enjoys engaging in local politics and using her marketing background to help support local efforts. Anna is excited to join BC Dems in this role and looks forward to working with everyone to make this the best year yet.



Tim Boyer is a fiscal conservative and a social liberal and has characterized himself 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.



It's Time!



Did you know that membership dues and Blue Bowl contributions are the only sources of income for your BC Dems?

Sure the presidential election is over. Now we turn our attention to the local, state, and congressional election in 2022.

Your contribution to your local Benton County Dems (BC Dems) Political Action Committee (PAC) is your opportunity to talk directly to the people who are on the front line for those issues. BC Dems also puts nearly all your money into the hands of local candidates.

As the sign says...

[RENEW NOW](#)

BLUE BOWLS

When we were meeting in person, Blue Bowls were placed on every table to collect funds. Those funds are used during both off-election and election years to support Democratic candidates for office within Arkansas.

You can still toss a few dollars into our virtual Blue Bowls. We only ask for a contribution of \$5 or more to offset those unavoidable transaction fees. Give to BlueBowl Fund



Proposed Amendment to Benton County Dems By-Laws

This last year has been a challenging one that has made the Board realize having additional flexibility in scheduling meetings would be useful but would require accommodating changes in our By-Laws. Some additional changes are included to address several other issues.

The Board wishes to submit an amendment to our By-Laws to make changes as noted below underlined text is added, ~~over-struck text is deleted~~). Only those parts of the By-Laws affected or helpful in understanding the context of the changes is included. See our web site for the full text of [current By-Laws](#).

The proposed amendment makes changes in the following general areas:

1. Removing an absolute requirement for meeting every month (which historically has never been observed for December, and sometimes not for Little Flock month) and changing wording so that the only event firmly tied to a specific monthly meeting is the election of new officers in November;
2. Allowing for the optional temporary replacement of the Immediate-Past-President Board member position by some other Immediate Past Board member in the event the Past President moves out of NWA or is otherwise no longer able to participate in Board meetings;
3. Formalizing an exception to Art 5, Sec 2 officer requirements that we have found necessary in order to fill some officer positions; and
4. Cleaning up some unclear and contradictory wording in Article 5 related to non-voting Board attendees and to replacing elected versus appointed vacated positions.

The proposed amendment was first presented at the November 23, 2020 General meeting. A written copy was distributed to all member by email in late December and will be repeated below. This amendment will be voted on at the following General Meeting, which is on January 25.

Joel Ewing, Social Media Chair

Sec. 1. The name of this organization shall be Benton County Dems, hereafter known in this document as the BCD.

A. Meetings will normally take place monthly as determined by the Board. The Board may elect to skip a General Meeting in a month in which other exceptional events or conflicts are occurring (such as December and the month of the Little Flock Picnic), or if unusual circumstances make a meeting impossible or unsafe (such as a pandemic)

B. Under circumstances where in-person meetings are impractical or unsafe (as determined by experts), the Board may elect to conduct meetings on-line using various applications suitable for that purpose.

ARTICLE 5. Officers and Board of Directors

Sec. 1. The elected Officers of this organization shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Their terms shall be from January 1 through December 31.

Sec. 2. Eligibility to be an Officer requires membership of one year and attendance at a minimum of six general meetings within the previous year. If an office has no candidate meeting these qualifications and the Board believes another person to be capable in every other way, it may vote to make an exception for an individual for this specific nomination. When this candidate is presented in nomination to the general membership, the Board's reasoning must be explained at that time.

Sec. 3. Officers shall be eligible for re-election for the same office for one term.

Sec. 4. If a vacancy occurs in any elected office, it shall be announced via e-mail. The Board shall present a candidate at that time and if further nominations are received, those shall be publicized in the same manner. A vote of the membership shall be held at the following general meeting after possible further nominations from the floor.

Sec. 5. The Board of Directors shall be formed of the four elected Officers above, the Immediate Past President, Membership Chair, Social Media Chair, and Publicity Chair.

Sec. 6. ~~The non-elected members of the Board shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Officers.~~ If a vacancy occurs in any non-elected Board position as specified in Sec. 5 [Membership Chair, Social media Chair, Publicity Chair], the opening will be announced by email to the general membership and the Board shall select a replacement. Other appointed positions may be filled by the President with concurrence by the Board.

Sec. 7. ~~Members of committees~~ Other committee members not named in Sec. 5 may attend Board meetings but will not be able to vote. ...

Sec. 9. ~~If a vacancy of any appointed Board member occurs, it shall be announced at the next general meeting and the Board shall fill the position at its following meeting.~~ In the event that the Immediate Past President is no longer able to meet with the Board, and the current Board feels it lacks continuity with the previous Board, the Board may choose to fill a vacated "Immediate Past President" Board position with some other "Immediate Past Board Member".

Sec. 10. The Board shall meet, normally monthly, at a place or on-line, and at a time to be determined by the Officers.

ARTICLE 6. Committees ...

Sec. 3. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three non-Board members selected by the Board ~~after~~

~~nominations from the floor at the May meeting.~~ from nominations from the floor at a prior General Meeting.
The default General Meeting for those nominations will be May, but may be changed by the Board as long as the Nominating Committee has sufficient time to meet its deadlines.

3A. The Nominating Committee shall ~~present a single slate of Officers at the last meeting prior to October and further nominations may be made from the floor at that time.~~ with prior announcement present a single slate of Officers at a General meeting designated by the Board, but no later than the November meeting, allowing further nominations from the floor. This report is usually at the August or September Meeting, but the Board may designate a later month of the year. Elections shall be held at the November meeting.

End of Proposal

General Meeting Minutes

Benton County Dems

General Meeting Minutes

ZOOM Virtual Meeting

Monday, November 23, 2020

I. Call to order by Vice-President Walter Hinojosa in President Bailey's absence at 12:02

II. Speakers

A. Walter Hinojosa introduced Janine Parry, Ph.D.

1. She is the founder and director of
The Arkansas Poll at the University of Arkansas.
2. Presented highlights from her research findings from her work on the 2020 Presidential Election
 - a. Those who turned out to vote were younger than in previous presidential elections
 - b. Women voted for the winner in much greater proportions than men.
 - c. There were many polls that were off just as much as they were in 2016. Not only were the polls wrong, but they were off in the wrong direction.
 - d. In terms of Arkansas, we turned more Republican than many other states.
3. Dr. Perry took questions from the audience.

B. Walter Hinojosa introduced Micah Wallace and Billy Cook of the Young Democrats of Arkansas.

1. They spoke about the initiatives being promoted by their organization.
2. They have more than 30 chapters at schools across the state.

3. They have a large social media presence and are focusing on building their organization along with relationship building.
4. Email address is ArkansasYoungDemocrats@gmail.com
5. Wallace and Cook took questions and listened to comments from attendees.

III. Business Meeting

- A. Walter told attendees of the need to conduct a few items of business
- B. He reminded everyone that their annual membership dues are due and instructed them on how to pay.
- C. There was a reminder about Blue Bowl contributions.
- D. Election of Officers
 1. Walter asked for any nominations from the floor. There being none, the nominations were closed.
 2. The proposed slate of officers was presented to the attendees.
 - President - Julia Bailey
 - Vice-President - David Bernstein
 - Treasurer - Tim Boyer
 - Secretary - Deb Ostas
 3. It was moved by Diana Kolman to accept the slate of offers by acclamation. It was seconded by Bill Beck.
 4. There was no discussion.
 5. The slate of officers was elected on a voice vote.
- E. Walter urged attendees to go to our website and read the proposed amendments to our organization's bylaws.
 1. Walter asked Joel Ewing to briefly outline the changes being proposed.
 2. Joel explained the proposed changes. There were no questions.
- F. There were general questions and comments from attendees.
- G. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was passed.
- H. According to the treasurer, the organization had a balance of \$1,476 as of November 18. The report was accepted on a voice vote.
- I. The meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Bernstein (standing in for)

Deborah Ostas

(Minutes taken from Zoom Meeting recording)

Treasurer's Summary

December 2020

by Timothy Boyer, Treasurer



Beginning Balance:	\$1,606.85		
INCOME:		EXPENSES:	
Dues	\$727.07		\$0.00
Blue Bowls	\$99.12		
Total Income:	\$825.19	Total Expenses:	\$0.00
Ending Balance:	\$2,433.04		

2020 Benton County Dems Officers & Committee Chairs

Position	Name
President	Julia K Bailey
Vice President	David Bernstein
Membership Chair	Suzanne Miltich
Secretary	Deb Ostay
Treasurer	Tim Boyer
Social Media Chair	Joel Ewing
Publicity Chair	Catherine Deeley
Communications Chair & Events Coordinator	Anna Knecht