

## Upcoming Meetings

Mon., September 27  
12:00 – 1:00 PM

Mon., October 25  
12:00 – 1:00 PM

[Join The Meeting Here](#)

## The President's Memo

Dear Members,

As we transition from summer into autumn, this season shift invites us to reflect as we prepare for the challenges to come. During this time, it's helpful to acknowledge that change happens and to seek support from each other to make it through this transition. We are grateful for our members' support and guidance. We also thank members and non-members for responding to our questionnaire as the board seeks a way forward for the organization.

The board distilled these survey responses while investigating organizational options for 2022 and beyond. What is hearteningly clear is that there remains a strength of purpose for our group despite the challenges we currently face. It's important to remind ourselves of this purpose and meet our members where they are rather than try to turn them into what we think they should be. We are a group of fellow Democrats who enjoy gathering during the day to learn more about the policies and politics impacting our county and region. We do this by gathering at an establishment that offers a varied and affordable lunch. BC Dems has always been about gathering around a meal, whether it be at the Golden Corral or through our annual bean dinner fundraisers. Although many members are retired from political activism and life, we encourage members to get more politically involved currently, whether that means volunteering to be a poll worker, registering voters, or becoming a member of the Democratic Party of Benton County. And through this lunching and learning, we support our Democratic candidates within Benton County.



Our sense of purpose remains, especially during these politically distraught times. And although our comradeship has been affected by not being able to safely meet in person right now, we know we still have a

role to play in advocating causes and supporting our Democratic candidates in Benton County. Following is what to expect for the remaining months of 2021 and early into 2022.

## Next steps for Benton County Dems for 2021 and beyond

- **For the remainder of 2021**, Benton County Dems will remain a Political Action Committee (PAC). As of, January 1, 2022, we will drop our PAC status. This organizational change gives the board more flexibility in terms of its financial management. The only change is that any money we, as an organization may raise, can no longer be directly donated to Democratic candidates. We can and will likely raise money for democratic issues and causes. However, our hospitality through our monthly gatherings will continue to provide a forum in which candidates and speakers can engage directly with a democratic audience.
- **At September's general meeting**, the nominating committee will present a list of officers for 2022 and ask for nominations from the floor.
- **At November's general meeting**, current members will vote on the slate of 2022 officers. (For those members who cannot attend the November meeting, we will provide a provisional way in which to vote for the 2022 officers.)
- **In January 2022**, the Benton County Dems members and community will hear from the new board about future gatherings and plans.

Stay safe and well,  
*Julia K. Bailey*

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## BLUE BOWLS



Go Ahead! Click or tap on the beautiful blue bowl image right here.

Stuff a few dollars into the virtual blue bowl. Believe it or not, your dollars are used to support Democratic candidates for office within Arkansas.

We only ask for a contribution of \$5 or more to offset those unavoidable transaction fees.

# September Book Recommendations

## PERIL

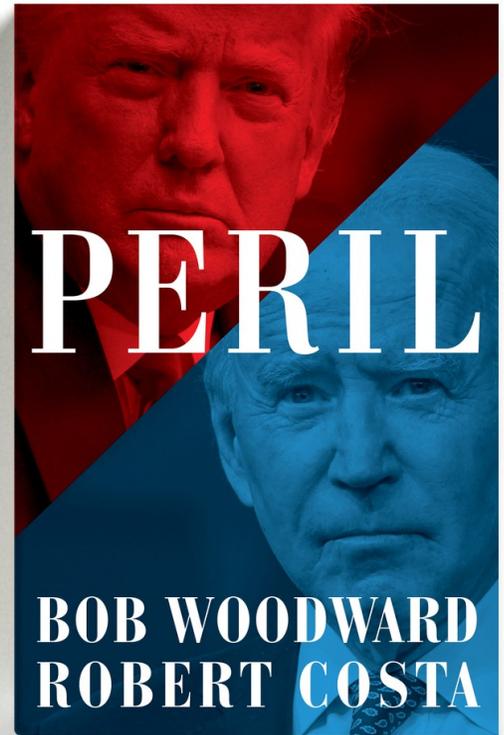
by Bob Woodward & Robert Costa

The titles of Bob Woodward's three books about the Trump administration — "Fear," "Rage" and now "Peril" — are appropriately blunt. The books, about the staccato stream of events that accompanied Donald Trump's time in office, are written at a mostly staccato clip.

The frantic pace is redoubled in "Peril," written with Robert Costa, Woodward's colleague at The Washington Post. Broken up into 72 short chapters, it hurtles through the past two years of dizzying news. But while it covers the 2020 campaign season and the course of the pandemic and the protests after George Floyd's murder and the opening months of Joseph Biden's presidency, the book's centerpiece is the riot at the Capitol on Jan. 6, and its primary concern is how President Trump behaved in the lead-up to and the aftermath of that crisis.

[Read the full New York Times Book Review here.](#)

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## Minutes

### Benton County Dems

#### General Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting, Monday, August 23, 2021

Attendance: 14

The meeting was called to order by Julia Bailey at 12:00.

The meeting was conducted as an open forum on the PAC's need for a 2022 Treasurer and options for the organization if someone does not volunteer to run for the position. Hiring an outside business to act as Treasurer for Benton County Dems, changing the organization's purpose from Political Action Committee to a social club with political interests, and dissolving the organization altogether were all discussed.

After the discussion was tabled for further discussion, the business meeting began. Judith Bernstein moved that the July Treasurer's Report that was printed in the August Newsletter be accepted. Joel Ewing seconded the motion. The July Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.

Suzanne Miltich moved to accept the July General Meeting Minutes that was printed in the August Newsletter. Walter Hinojosa seconded the motion. The July Minutes were accepted unanimously.

Nominating Committee Report: Walter Hinojosa report the nominating committee has not been able to secure a candidate for treasurer. Julia K Bailey led a brief discussion about the implications of the organization not finding a treasurer.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Bailey led a separate discussion about whether the group should meet together in person again or not. A number of members indicated their interest in continuing to meet in some fashion. Issue of Zoom fatigue was raised as a possible contributing factor of not being able to find a treasurer. Bailey reported to attendees that the board will consider all the information from today in deciding how to move forward.

Judith Bernstein moved to adjourn. Joel Ewing seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:47.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Ostas

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# Treasurer's Summary

## August 2021

by Timothy Boyer, Treasurer



<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	<b>\$2,864.48</b>		
<b><u>INCOME:</u></b>		<b><u>EXPENSES:</u></b>	
Dues	\$-0-		\$-0-
Blue Bowls	\$19.12		
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$19.12</b>	<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$2,883.60</b>		

## 2020 Benton County Dems Officers & Committee Chairs

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>
President	Julia K Bailey
Vice President	David Bernstein
Membership Chair	<i>vacant</i>
Secretary	Deb Ostay
Treasurer	Tim Boyer
Social Media Chair	Joel Ewing
Publicity Chair	Catherine Deeley
Communications Chair & Events Coordinator	Anna Knecht