

Benton County Dems' World



David Bernstein, Editor

Upcoming Meetings

Mon., October 25
12:00 – 1:00 PM

Mon., November 22
12:00 – 1:00 PM

[Join The Meeting Here](#)

The President's Memo

Dear Members,

I hope you've been able to enjoy this vibrant time of year. With the change of seasons from summer to autumn comes the reminder that we're entering our country's election season with local, state and congressional mid-term elections taking place at this time next year. We expect the remaining months of 2021 to be a time of transition into a new way of working for the Benton County Dems board and will include preparing to gather in person again before too long.

If the Covid-19 statistics continue to show improvement, we're considering holding our meeting in person for the November meeting — scheduled for Thanksgiving week (November 22). Please indicate your preference for a meeting in person or online for our November meeting by clicking on your choice below.

For this month's October meeting, we hope to see you on-line. We'll be getting the most recent legislative update from Arkansas State Representative Megan Godfrey and receiving nominations from the floor for Benton County Dems 2022 board positions.

Stay safe and well,
Julia K. Bailey



We are considering holding our November meeting in person. How are you more likely to attend?

[In person](#)

[Online via Zoom](#)

[Neither. I cannot attend the November meeting](#)

[I don't know](#)

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.

This Month's Speaker

State Representative Megan Godfrey

Considering the importance of the pending redistricting activities, Rep. Godfrey will share her thoughts and concerns, and answer your questions about this complex topic.

Rep. Godfrey is serving her second term in the Arkansas House. She represents District 89 which includes portions of Washington County. For the 93rd General Assembly, Rep. Godfrey serves on the House City, County & Local Affairs Committee, the House Education Committee, and the Joint Performance Review Committee.



Rep. Godfrey lives in Springdale with her husband and two children. She graduated from the University of Arkansas cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and later graduated from Loyola Marymount University with an M.A. in elementary education. She worked for fourteen years as a public school teacher, specialist, and director and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction at the University of Arkansas.

This Month's Book Review

Midnight in Washington

How We Almost Lost Our Democracy And Still Could

By Adam Schiff

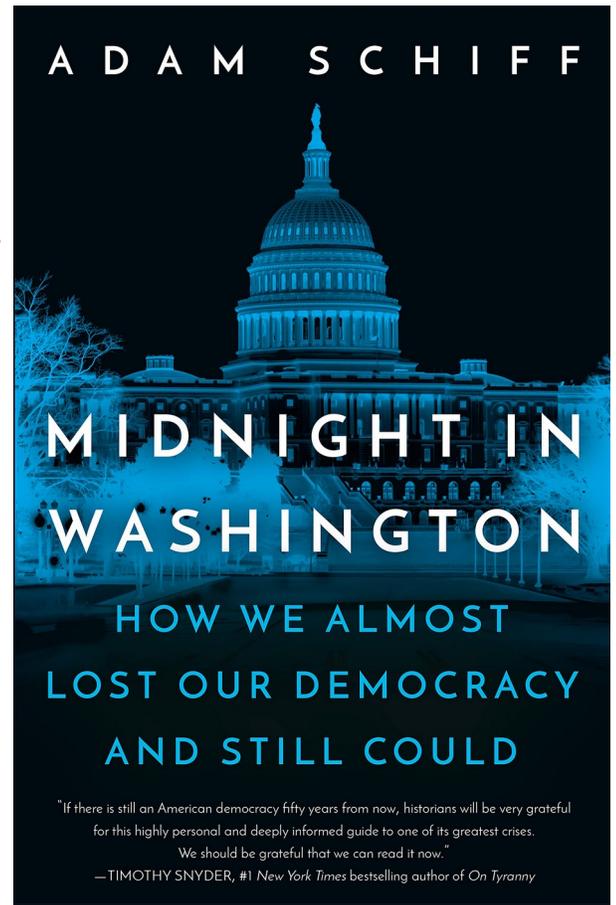
Adam Schiff is the United States Representative for California's 28th Congressional District. In his role as Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Schiff led the first impeachment of Donald J. Trump. Before he served in Congress, he worked as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Los Angeles and as a California State Senator. He and his wife, Eve, have two children, Alexa and Elijah.

The vital inside account of American democracy in its darkest hour, from the rise of autocracy unleashed by Trump to the January 6 insurrection, and a warning that those forces remain as potent as ever—from the congressman who led the first impeachment of Donald J. Trump

“Engaging and informative . . . a manual for how to probe and question power, how to hold leaders accountable in a time of diminishing responsibility.”—*The Washington Post*

In the years leading up to the election of Donald Trump, Congressman Adam Schiff had already been sounding the alarm over the resurgence of autocracy around the world, and the threat this posed to the United States. But as he led the probe into Donald Trump's Russia and Ukraine-related abuses of presidential power, Schiff came to the terrible conclusion that the principal threat to American democracy now came from within.

In Midnight in Washington, Schiff argues that the Trump presidency has so weakened our institutions and compromised the Republican Party that the peril will last for years, requiring unprecedented vigilance against the growing and dangerous appeal of authoritarianism. The congressman chronicles step by step just how our democracy was put at such risk, and traces his own path to meeting the crisis—from serious prosecutor, to congressman with an expertise in national security and a reputation for bipartisanship, to liberal lightning rod, scourge of the right, and archenemy of a president. Schiff takes us inside his team of impeachment managers and their desperate defense of the constitution amid the rise of a distinctly American brand of autocracy.



Minutes, Benton County Dems

General Meeting Minutes Zoom Meeting, Monday, September 27, 2021

Attendance: 14

The meeting was called to order by Julia Kilborne-Bailey at 12:01. Twelve members present

The Treasurer's Report had been posted in the September Newsletter. No questions about it were asked. Susanne Miltich moved to accept the report/ Judith Bernstein seconded/ Passed unanimously.

The Minutes from the August General Meeting had been posted in the September Newsletter. No questions or corrections were given. Susanne Miltich moved to accept the Minutes / Tim Boyer seconded / Passed unanimously.

Walter Hinojosa thanked Stan Fure for being a member of the Nominating Team. Stan and Walter talked to every member of the Benton County Dems, asking for willing officers. To follow protocols specified in the Bylaws, Walter Hinojosa presented the officer nominees for 2022-year.

- President – David Bernstein
- Vice President – Anna Knecht
- Secretary – Diane Kolman
- Treasurer – No one has accepted the nomination

Walter asked for nominations from the floor. None were submitted. The nominations for the 2022-year stand. Deb Ostas moved that the Nominating Committee's Report be accepted/ Judith Bernstein seconded/ Unanimously approved.

Membership will vote on the proposed list of officers at the meeting on November 22, 2022.

Because of the serious nature of the PAC's ability to continue without a treasurer, no speaker presented this month. Tim Boyer presented the legal and ethical issues of closing Benton County Dems as a Political Action Committee which will be essential. Remaining as a PAC would require an official Treasurer. Benton County Dems will end its role as a PAC in December, and the group will continue as a social club with political interests beginning in January 2022.

The effort will be made to have guest speakers at the October and November meetings.

Walter Hinojosa moved to adjourn at 12:56 / Joel Ewing seconded / Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Ostas

Treasurer's Summary

September 2021

by Timothy Boyer, Treasurer



Beginning Balance: \$2,883.60

INCOME:

Dues \$-0-

Blue Bowls \$148.26

Total Income: \$148.26

Ending Balance: \$2,883.39

EXPENSES:

Meetup renewal (Joel paid 1-15-2021) \$49.47

Weebly renewal (Joel paid 2-12-2021) \$99.00

Total Expenses: \$148.47

2020 Benton County Dems Officers & Committee Chairs

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
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