

BC Dems

April 2022

Benton County Dems' World



David Bernstein, Editor

Hybrid General Meeting

BC Dems General Meeting

Date & Time: April 25, 2022, 12:00 PM Central

Join us in person at...

Golden Corral

2605 W Pleasant Crossing Dr,

Rogers, AR 72758

11:00 AM – 12:00 Social Time & Lunch

12:00 – 1:00 PM Meeting and Speaker presentation

Via Zoom...

Meeting ID: 875 3282 8495

Passcode: 285 057

[Join the Live Meeting Here](#)

This Month's Guest Speaker

Supha Xayprasith-Mays

Democratic Candidate for Governor



Supha Xayprasith-Mays lives in Little Rock, Arkansas. Xayprasith-Mays' career experience includes founding and owning I Love New York Fashion, founding and working as the president of Inclusion Job Inc., and founding and working as the CEO of the Multicultural Expo Center.

Supha Xayprasith-Mays (Pronounced Sai-Pri-Sith-Maze) began her career in her early 20's, working for what is now the world's largest retailer, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., at the corporate headquarter in Bentonville, Arkansas; a place which most Arkansans are very familiar. She has managed a multi-million dollar annual operation, with traffic of over twenty thousand customers a day under her leadership.

Supha, most importantly credits her #1 fan, her immigrant mother. As a widow, she courageously brought 4 little girls and her two siblings to America, to have a better life. Prior to losing her battle with breast cancer, she reminded Supha and her siblings that we are not just here for ourselves, but we have an obligation and responsibility to help others around us and to make our world a better place.

The President's Memo

"Wait, let me read that again carefully."

Toward the end of our last meeting at the Golden Corral, one woman asked a question that seemed a bit odd to me. Since I didn't capture the question verbatim, here is the essence of her question. *Why is the Biden Administration forcing religious schools to integrate their single-sex dormitories?* As proof, she noted the information was published in the Wall Street Journal. Still feeling a bit skeptical about the information, I dug into the story a little deeper.

In this particular case, the source was actually an editorial article in the Wall Street Journal written by an individual associated with the religious college in question. An editorial, by definition, is an article written by or on behalf of an editor that gives an opinion on a topical issue.



I don't believe for a moment our woman questioner was trying to mislead or doing anything devious. However, with the proliferation of false or misleading information seeping into our favorite media sources, I urge each of us to be vigilant about not spreading misleading or blatantly false information.

Here are a few key tips to identify false or misleading facts.

- **READ BEYOND** Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?
- **CHECK THE AUTHOR** Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?
- **SUPPORTING SOURCES?** Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.
- **CHECK THE DATE** Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.
- **IS IT A JOKE?** If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.
- **ASK THE EXPERTS** Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.

We all should want to be exposed to a range of opinions and perspectives. But as the late Democratic Senator, Daniel Patrick Moynihan said, "Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not to his own facts."

Stay well,

David A. Bernstein

Some Nationally Trusted Fact-Checking Sites

These are just a few places to start your reading. There are plenty more available. It is not always easy to find exactly what you are looking for but with a little persistence, you can find almost anything.

- [PolitiFact](#) - Pulitzer Prize-winning site run by editors and reporters from the Tampa Bay Times (Florida)
 - [FactCheck.org](#) - "FactCheck.org is a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania....a nonpartisan, nonprofit "consumer advocate" for voters that aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in U.S. politics. We monitor the factual accuracy of what is said by major U.S. political players in the form of TV ads, debates, speeches, interviews, and news releases."
 - [Snopes](#) - The definitive Internet reference source for urban legends, folklore, myths, rumors, and misinformation.
 - [OpenSecrets.org](#) - "Nonpartisan, independent and nonprofit, the Center for Responsive Politics is the nation's premier research group tracking money in U.S. politics and its effect on elections and public policy."
 - [Fact Check \(Washington Post\)](#) - "The purpose of this Web site, and an accompanying column in the Sunday print edition of The Washington Post, is to "truth squad" the statements of political figures regarding issues of great importance, be they national, international or local."
 - [Cornell University's](#) great news literacy guide. A wonderful resource for everyone.
-

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.

Minutes

BENTON COUNTY DEMS March 28, 2022 General Meeting Golden Corral, Rogers, AR

President David Bernstein called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon. After welcoming the 14 members in attendance, he introduced Vice President Anna Knech, who introduced the speaker for the day, Dr. Anthony Bland, a candidate for Arkansas governor.

Speaking via Zoom, Bland began by saying he is from Northwest Arkansas and is aware of the growing needs of the area. At one time he was a single father raising three daughters while completing a degree online. Therefore, he can easily identify with those currently in a similar situation. As a candidate, his goal is to find out what the people want and to try to address those wants. He said his strengths are his willingness to stand up for what is right, his transparency, and his desire for fair treatment for all. To learn more about him, Bland advised a visit to his website, anthonyblandforar.com.

A question/answer session followed. Marianne Bicker asked about voter registration drives. She said she feels getting people registered to vote should be our top priority.

Kathy Pettigrew asked about how to evaluate polls. The following sources were suggested: Balletopedia; Gallup political data; and the website realclearpolitics.com. If a poll asks for money, it should not be considered reliable.

Following the program, Bernstein called the business meeting to order by asking Bill Beck to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes for the previous meeting had been emailed to members. Joel Ewing moved the minutes be approved as submitted. Richard Bland seconded the motion and it carried. The treasurer's report had also been emailed prior to the meeting. Jack Howell moved the report be approved as submitted. Ewing seconded the motion, and it carried.

There was no new business. Bernstein reported the following club transactions: (1) The club's Zoom account has been renewed for a year. (2) \$45 was spent to register online with the state. BC Dems is now registered as a nonprofit Arkansas entity. (3) Ewing renewed the club's website and will be reimbursed. The next meeting will be April 25 at noon at the Golden Corral. The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Diana Kolman
Secretary

Treasurer's Summary

March 2022

by Joel Ewing & Treasurer Committee

Beginning Balance:	\$3,400.47		
<u>INCOME:</u>		<u>EXPENSES:</u>	
Dues	\$136.12	Meetings (Zoom License)	\$164.14
Blue Bowls	\$15.00	Misc. (AR SOS Certificate)	\$45.00
Total Income:	\$154.12	Total Expenses:	\$209.14
Ending Balance:	\$3,345.45		

2022 Benton County Dems Officers & Committee Chairs

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
President	David Bernstein
Vice President	Anna Knecht
Membership Chair	<i>vacant</i>
Secretary	Diane Kolman
Treasurer	<i>vacant</i>
Publicity Chair	<i>vacant</i>
Social Media Chair	Joel Ewing
Immediate Past President	Julia K Bailey