

Benton County Dems' World

Eunice Van Tuyl, Editor

October 22nd MEETING:

12:00: Speaker and Business
Lunch before, during or after
Golden Corral in Rogers
2605 W. Pleasant Grove Crossing

This month's speakers are:

Jon Comstock is a candidate for Arkansas State Senate District 3.

Jon has been an attorney since 1976 and had a private practice for over 15 years, followed by an in-house counsel role at Walmart for 18 years. He subsequently served as a Circuit Court Judge in Benton County, having been appointed by the Governor to fill a position from which a judge retired early.

He currently divides his time between "Comstock Conflict Resolution Services", where he serves as a mediator in a wide variety of disputes; the University of Arkansas, where he is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Law, teaching multiple courses; and is engaged in various *pro bono* efforts in the area of criminal justice. He is an original member of Judicial Equality for Mental Illness (JEMI), which seeks to improve the mental health care provided to the incarcerated and is a member of the NWA Prison Reentry Coalition.

Josh Mahony is a candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives, Arkansas District 3.

Josh was born in El Dorado and grew up on a horse farm. He grew up in a family dedicated to public service and learned the values of community engagement from his heroes: his mother, Alice Mahony, a tireless fighter for

public education, and his uncle, long-time state representative, Jodie Mahony.

Josh has dedicated his career to improving the lives of thousands of Arkansas families through service and philanthropy. He is a leader in state and local non-profits and is a part owner of a natural resources company. Josh is the past President of the Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund and past President of the Ozark Literacy Council Board of Directors, which strives to promote literacy of non-native English speakers in Northwest Arkansas. He is also the former Chairman of the Fayetteville Airport Board.

Josh is married to Rhianon DeLeeuw, who grew up on a dairy farm and has experience working in the nonprofit, public and private sectors. Rhiannon is currently a Senior Director with Wal-Mart. Josh and Rhianon live in Fayetteville with their four large and lovable dogs.

Mon, Oct. 22 **BC Dems Luncheon**
11:00 – 1:00
Golden Corral

Mon., Oct. 22 **Early Voting Begins.**

Nov. 6 **Election day**

Mon., Nov. 12: 6:30 PM **Democratic Party of**
Guess Who? - B'ville **Benton Co.**

Tues., Nov. 13: 11:30 **NWA Senior**
Western Sizzlin' **Democrats' Luncheon**

Mon., Nov. 26 **BC Dems' Luncheon**
11:00 – 1:00
Golden Corral

Every **Tuesday** and **Friday**, **Celeste Williams'** campaign will be door knocking in **Bella Vista** from 5:30 to 7:30. Meet at the Harps Grocery parking lot (on Lancashire at Town Center East side) at 5:30. Every **Saturday** they will canvass **Rogers** from 1:30-4:00pm. Meet at Democratic Party Headquarters 1019 N 2nd Street in Rogers. Every **Sunday** they will canvass Pea Ridge from 1:30 to 4:00. Meet at the Pea Ridge Cafe, 467 Lee Town Road. Questions? Contact volunteer coordinator Larry Concannon at 479-381-7443.

Gayatri Agnew's campaign will canvass every Sunday from 2:00 to 4:00, will phone bank every Monday from 6:00 to 8:00, and will canvas every Tuesday from 5:50 to 7:30.

Josh Mahony's campaign canvasses and phone banks every evening.

Richard A. Bland, President

BC Dems has experienced several positive developments during the past month which will help pave the road to the future. These positives result from actions of the most important people in BC Dems, you, the members.

We have a slate of officers for 2019. Secretary Diana Kolman has expressed a willingness to serve another term, as has Treasurer David Cauldwell. Eunice Van Tuyl, my predecessor in this office, who presided over BC Dems very ably in 2016, is the candidate for President. Julia Kilbourne-Bailey, who became a member earlier this year, is the Nominating Committee's choice for Vice President. This slate was presented at the September meeting, and the membership will vote on accepting it in November.

We owe our gratitude to the Nominating Committee, which consisted on Dr. Michael Reese, Harrell Simpson, and Bill Beck, for recruiting this slate of candidates. When you see one of them, tell him "Thanks."

Checks to candidates went out during the past month. The total distributed this round was \$3,000. This brings our total for this election cycle to approximately \$11,000.

Congratulations to Harrell Simpson for his winning bid of \$600 for the large, framed photo of the 1963 dedication of Greer's Ferry Dam. Harrell reports that he attended the event, which included one of President Kennedy's last public speeches before his assassination. This month we will auction a portrait of the Clinton family by Wanda Roe, of Pea Ridge, a longtime Democrat.

This is our last newsletter before the election. All of you are regular voters and need no urging to get to the polls. But please also urge others to vote, remind them often, even offer to take them to their polling places. To win, we must have turnout.

It is time to renew your BC Dems membership for 2019. The form is on our website, bcdems.org, under the tab "Get Involved." You can mail it in, or renew at the meeting.

Arkansas is one of only 13 states that do not have on-line voter registration. Susan Inman, our candidate for Secretary of State, vows to make this possible.

In Benton County, residents may vote at any polling place. All have new voting machines this year.

If your name or address have changed, it is much easier to notify the County Clerk ahead of the day you're voting. You do not want to have to wait in line at the polls while they try to call in for you to get this changed before you may vote!

Treasurer's Summary Sept., 2018**by David Cauldwell, Treasurer**Beginning Balance: **\$3,385.39**

Income:	Blue Bowls:	\$75.00
	Dues:	\$40.00
	Newsletter Postage:	\$10.00
	Silent Auction:	<u>\$600.00</u>
	Total:	\$725.00

Expenses: \$0.00

Ending Balance: **\$4,110.39****BENTON COUNTY DEMS' General Meeting Sept. 24, 2018 Golden Corral in Rogers.**

President Richard Bland called the meeting to order at 12:05. He welcomed new attendees, guests and visitors. Mary Ann Boyer led us in the pledge of allegiance. Suzanne Miltich then introduced the following speakers: Brie Madden, candidate for JP District 6; Rachel Slaton, speaking for her husband, Sam Slaton, candidate for JP District 8; and Asele Mack, candidate for JP District 15.

Brie Madden, a practicing attorney who also works for a local non-profit, spoke first. She described herself as a natural advocate for underdogs. She wants to serve on the Quorum Court because her district is experiencing much growth and needs to plan for future needs, especially roads. Brie asked for help knocking on doors, participating in phone banks, and writing postcards. Her contact info will be supplied via email to BC Dems members.

Rachel Slaton spoke for her husband who teaches at the Thaden School in Bentonville. She said Sam is running because he wants to see more diversity of thought and opinion on the Quorum Court. He also hopes to model civic engagement for young people. Sam wants to end Bentonville's participation in the 287-G program, expand the county's recycling program, explore alternatives to juvenile detention by offering job training, and push for a comprehensive land-use plan. He asked for help canvassing and writing postcards, and his contact information will be supplied via email.

Asele Mack is currently a librarian at NWACC. She is originally from Russia and feels newcomers to this community have much to offer. She, too, feels there is too much complacency among current Quorum Court members, and she pointed out that although there are 15 members on the Quorum Court, only four of them are women. She also asked for help getting her signs out, canvassing and telephoning. Her information will be emailed to members.

Following the speakers, the minutes and treasurer's reports for the August meetings were approved unanimously.

Dr. Michael Reese of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers for the coming year: President – Eunice Van Tuyl, Vice President – Julia Kilbourne-Bailey, Secretary – Diana Kolman, and Treasurer – David Cauldwell.

Richard called for nominations from the floor. There were none. Mary Ann Boyer moved the slate of officers be approved as presented. Bill Beck seconded the motion, and it passed.

•Thurman Metcalf reported from the Democratic Party of Benton County. He thanked everyone for their support and attendance at Saturday's Little Flock Picnic where approximately \$9,000.00 was raised.

- Connie Hoffman asked members to sign up to work at the party headquarters. In addition to working in the office, there are still get-out-the-vote packets to be distributed. Those wanting to volunteer should call the headquarters at 479-987-0714 or call or text Sharon Carter at 479-721-1633.
- Bill Beck reminded everyone of the movie fundraiser, Michael Moore's Fahrenheit 11/9, this Saturday, Sept. 29, at 10:00. It has been moved to the Malco Pinnacle Theater. The cost is \$15.00, and proceeds benefit the Benton County Democratic Central Committee.
- Larry Concannon asked for help canvassing and distributing signs and stickers for Celeste Williams, candidate for House District 95.
- Jené Huffman-Gilreath, candidate for House District 94, reminded those present that Saturday has been declared a "Day of Action" in Rogers. Her campaign will be working to get out the vote. She is also in the process of filming a TV commercial and hopes to raise \$10,000.00 to see her through the rest of the campaign.
- Blanca Estevez with the "Give Back" initiative announced that she has registered 30 students from Decatur High School and that she will be taking them on a field trip to vote Nov. 6. She needs breakfast money to feed the entire school (560 students).
- Suzanne Miltich announced a soup supper on Oct. 11, from 5:30 to 7:30 at 1400 W. Walnut, to benefit Celeste Williams' campaign.
- Asele Mack said candidates are organizing a weekly sign holding from 5:30 to 7:30 on the Bentonville Square.
- Shawn Wright, candidate for Rogers City Council, introduced himself. He is interested in seeing that immigrants are treated fairly and that growth in the downtown area is productive.
- Rey Hernandez reminded everyone that October is Hispanic Heritage Month, and asked all present to encourage Hispanics to vote.
- The photographic print of the 1963 Greers Ferry dam dedication was auctioned to Harrell Simpson for \$600.00.

The next meeting is Oct. 22nd at the Golden Corral. Speakers will be Jon Comstock and Josh Mahoney. The meeting adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Our candidates for next year:



For President: Eunice Van Tuyl has a B.A. in French, English and Spanish, and an M.A. in French. She taught for 33 years and took students on lengthy trips abroad. Eunice served as a representative in local, state (ISEA) and national (NEA) organizations for many years and held various leadership positions for them and the Iowa Foreign Language Association. She worked for the Democratic Party and says one of her greatest regrets at leaving Iowa is missing its first-in-the-nation caucuses and meeting all the Presidential candidates one on one.

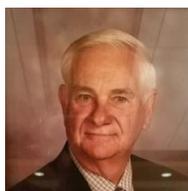
Eunice and her husband Jim enjoy movies, cards and the activities at Crystal Bridges. Their passions are international travel, charity work, education and, of course, politics.



For Vice-president: **Dr. Julia Kilbourne-Bailey** is a long-time active Democrat. She most recently lived in the United Kingdom and was active in the Democrats Abroad chapter. Born and raised in Los Angeles, she has since lived and worked in different parts of the world promoting health, ethics and human rights programs for business, civil society, and institutions. Julia moved to Northwest Arkansas with her husband and daughter four years ago and works on a number of community based initiatives.



For Secretary: **Diana Kolman** has been a resident of Rogers since 1972 when her husband Maurice (the former Rogers Director of Transportation and Planning, now deceased) moved the family to Northwest Arkansas. She returned to college in the late '80s and earned her degree in education from the University of Arkansas in 1989. She taught journalism at Rogers High School for the next 21 years, retiring in 2011. After retiring, Kolman, a lifelong Democrat, found time to become involved in volunteer activities, and now her two passions are the Rogers Public Education Foundation and the Benton County Dems.



For Treasurer: **David Cauldwell**, a Rogers native, graduated from the U. of A. with a B.A. in Public Administration. He worked for the Arkansas Commission on Crime and Law Enforcement and State Revenue Department and was an Administrative Assistant to a Benton County Judge. He was then elected to serve as County Tax Collector until he was hired as Business Manager for the Rogers schools.

In 2005 David was named the Arkansas School Business Administrator of the year for Arkansas. He has been elected a Board member to represent Arkansas School support staff on the Arkansas Teacher Retirement Board.

An estimated 15 million people were registered but didn't vote in 2016 because of transportation issues.

In an attempt to get out the vote in a contentious election year, Lyft announced in August it would offer free and discounted rides to the polls on Nov. 6. Organizations including Vote.org and TurboVote will help distribute nationwide 50% off codes for the Lyft app. And Lyft will also provide free rides through nonpartisan, nonprofit partners such as Voto Latino to help members of underserved communities who historically have had a harder time getting to the polls.

Uber is partnering with Democracy Works and #VoteTogether to provide promo codes for free rides to voters across the U.S. on Nov. 6. Riders will be able to look up their designated voting location by entering their home address into the app.

An important lesson learned from the last two years is that every vote counts. That's why it's critical to mobilize and engage voters—not just in presidential elections, but all the time. Black women know this well. It's how they helped Democrats win important victories in the South in 2017. And it's why black women are once again focused there for the midterms.

A coalition of local, state, and national black women's groups are planning get-out-the vote campaigns targeting black voters in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi. The coalition includes the organizations Black Voters Matter, the Black Women's Roundtable, and Southern Rural Black Women's Initiative

Black Voters Matter began their work this summer by launching “The South is Rising” tour. The group is specifically reaching out to black rural voters who are often marginalized and ignored. In addition to registering voters, they hold forums on the history of voting rights in each state.

Trump campaign chair: Guilty

Trump personal attorney: Guilty

Trump deputy campaign chair: Guilty

Trump National Security Advisor: Guilty

Trump foreign policy advisor: Guilty

Some witch hunt, huh?

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that the U.S. is sharply reducing the number of refugees that it will accept from 45,000 to 30,000 in 2019, the lowest since the program began in 1980.

Beware: By next year, nearly half of our cell phone calls will be scams, nearly 3.4 billion each month.

While 0.6 percent of the U.S. adult population are lawyers, **41 percent** of the 113th Congress are. Members of Congress are sixty-eight times as likely as all American adults to have practiced law.

Nearly **10 million people will die** of cancer this year and there will be **18.1 million new cases**.

30 million people in the U.S. have one of 7,000 rare diseases (those with fewer 200,000 diagnoses).

President Trump campaigned on lowering the costs of medications. In the first seven months of 2018, for every price that was cut, **96** were raised

* There is nowhere on earth where women have the same opportunities as men. Nowhere. This may have something to do with 130 million girls who are not in school. That's so many girls that if they made up their own country, they would be 10th on the list of the world's most populous countries.

* Iceland has been ranked as the most gender-equal country by the World Economic Forum for nine years in a row. Iceland has the best track record on gender equality in the world, [according to the World Economic Forum](#). Nearly half of their parliamentarians are women, 44% of CEOs are women, and there has been a female President for 20 of the last 50 years.

* Equal pay for equal work has been mandated by Icelandic laws since 1961. Companies in Iceland are required to demonstrate that they pay male and female employees fairly — without gender discrimination. Failing to do so can result in daily fines. But the country still had a persistent pay gap of [just over 16 percent](#) as of last year. The gap exists across all occupational groups. Iceland's new law applies to companies with 25 employees or more. Every three years, the companies will need to confirm that they are paying men and women equally for jobs of equal value. If they aren't certified, a daily fine will stack up. Functionally, the law will also block pay discrimination on "race, religion, disability, occupational disability, age and sexual orientation grounds,"

* On Oct. 26, 2017, Jacinda Aedern, 37, became the world's youngest female leader as Prime Minister of New Zealand. On June 21, 2018, she became the second world leader to give birth while in office. (The first was Pakistan's Benazir Bhutto in 1990.)

* Stacie Cunningham has become the first woman president of the New York Stock Exchange in its 126-year history.

Muriel Siebert became the first female member of the NYSE in 1962, 170 years after its founding in 1792, after being turned away by the first nine men she asked to sponsor her.

* Joan Singer, an engineer whose 32-year career with NASA began with an internship, was named the first woman to serve as permanent director of the agency's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, AL, which has 6,000 employees and a \$2.8 billion budget.

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OUR CANDIDATES



THE CROWD



2018 Benton County Democrats' Officers & Committee Chairs

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Home #</u>
President	Richard Bland	rabland@cox.net	631-9818
Vice-President	Suzanne Miltich	suzanne@dhsc.com	925-6275
Treasurer	David Cauldwell	dcauldwl@gmail.com	721-2747
Recording Secretary	Diana Kolman	dkolman@cox.net	903-3532
Past President	Eunice Van Tuyl	etyl@sbcglobal.net	855-7771
Membership Chair	Gaye Bland	GKBland@cox.net	631-9818
Social Media Chair	Joel Ewing	jcewing.bcdems@cox.net	268-4231
Social Media	David Bernstein	davidabernstein@gmail.com	214-724-2376
Newsletter Chair	Eunice Van Tuyl	etuy@sbcglobal.net	855-7771
Publicity Chair	Jerri Cooper	jerricooper@aol.com	640-1343
Corresponding Secretary	JoAnn Skilllett	jskilllett@sbcglobal.net	876-6841
Reservations Chair	Betty Cauldwell	bcauldwl@gmail.com	721-2747

