



WAKE DEMOCRATIC WOMAN



February 2012

Published by Democratic Women of Wake County



Democratic Women of Wake County will hold a luncheon meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at the NC State University Club, 4200 Hillsborough Street in Raleigh.

The featured speaker will be Charmaine Fuller Cooper, Executive Director of the N.C. Justice for Sterilization Victims Foundation.

The buffet lines open at 11:30 a.m. and the program begins at 12 noon. The cost of the luncheon is \$16.00 payable at the door.

For reservations, email democraticwomenwakecounty@gmail.com or call (919) 467-0151. The deadline for reservations is Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 12 noon.

President's Message



Dear Democrats,
We are in the most important election year of all times. Women rights are under attack. Just look at what happened recently with the decision by the Komen Foundation and now the ongoing Birth Control issue. Let's make a concentrated effort to engage our family, friends

and neighbors about the importance of the "vote." Why the GOTV ("Get out the vote") is important to you and ways you can get involved: GOTV includes but not inclusive to working with your local Precinct, Democratic Party, Democratic auxiliaries to telephoning known supporters on the days leading up to an election (or on election day itself) or providing transport to and from polling stations for supporters. Canvassing workers who will knock on doors of private residences within a particular geographic area, engaging in face-to-face personal interaction with voters. Canvassing may also be performed by telephone, where it is referred to as telephone canvassing. The annual neighborhood precinct gathering will be held

CALENDAR

February 23rd
DWWC Monthly Luncheon
NC State University Club
11:30am-1:00pm

March 6
Statewide Precinct Meeting
7:00pm-8:30pm

March 29th
DWWC Monthly Luncheon NC State University Club
11:30am-1:00pm

DOES ANYONE NEED A CARD?

If you know of anyone who is sick, please contact Lindy Brown lindy93@aol.com

on Tuesday, March 6, 2012. At the precinct meeting you will hear from the democratic candidates and their policy position on specific issues. Please get involved with your local level precinct.

so we can send a card.

*Respectfully,
Mary H. Starkey, President*

Recognizing Black History Month: African American Women in Politics

This is the month for remembering and acknowledging Black history. Let us remember the past and consider the present in order to influence the future.

Do you remember the late NC Senator Jeanne Lucas? Senator Jeanne Lucas was the first black women elected to serve in the North Carolina Senate. Also known as the "Queen" of the Senate, Senator Lucas served the 20th Senatorial District. She also served as Co-Chairman of the Senate Appropriations on Education/Higher Education committee. Remember our great black women in politics.

Let us consider the present NC House Representative Rosa Gill. Representative Gill has served on the Wake County School Board for 10 years and as the Chair for two years. Presently, Representative Gill is serving as NC House Representative for District 33. Also reflect on, Councilwoman Linda Lyons of Morrisville. She has served since 1999 for District 1. As we re-elect women democrats, consider lending your talents assisting in the campaign. We must vote and encourage others to do the same.

Black history has taught us to fight for democracy. Let us continue to battle and keep our state blue. Support the First Lady Michelle Obama as she stands tall beside our great President, Barack Obama. There's something powerful about Democratic Women, camaraderie.

*Carolyn Mayo, Chair
Issues Committee, DWWC*

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NOW
Support the Organization. Support the
Democratic Party**

Fellow Members of DWWC:

Our by-laws state that membership in DWWC is the calendar year, from January through December. That means that each of us should renew our membership now. It is very important that we renew on time because we must submit our total membership number to the state NCDW in early March, AND, we want to have a healthy number to report, so please go on line to www.DWWC.net and send in the membership form, along with your check. If you have already renewed, thanks; disregard this note.

Our organization provides us with important and provocative programs each month, informing us of the current issues under discussion at the county and state levels. We also hear candidates for office tell us why they deserve our support. We learn from them the important current issues and how they and the Party are addressing these issues. We also learn how we can contribute, both in terms of time and wherewithal, to the success of Democrats seeking office.

One of our key goals for 2012 will be to assure that President Obama is re-elected and that we elect a Democratic Governor, along with Democratic state legislators. Your membership in DWWC will strengthen this effort as we work together to build our membership and our commitment to our success as Democrats.

Don't forget that you may pick up your membership directory, giving you all the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of our members. Come to the luncheon in February to renew your membership and collect your copy of the membership directory. Be sure to register for the luncheon through the notice sent through Constant Contact. This is a simple, on line registration process that simplifies our bookkeeping greatly.

*Marylee Crofts,
First VP and Membership Chair*

Board Member Feature: Marylee Crofts



I was raised in a Midwestern Republican family and became a Democrat in college when I did research for a paper on Franklin Delano Roosevelt. I have been a Democrat ever since and only once

voted for a Republican, a candidate for governor of Michigan who supported a woman's right to choose abortion. (His son is now running for the Republican spot on the presidential ticket.) I was lucky enough to meet Eleanor Roosevelt once, at my boy friend's house!

As a teenager, I trained jumping horses for a retired Irish Cavalry officer; great fun and good exercise. I was active in Presbyterian youth organizations and was an exchange student to Germany in 1953. My first time in Africa, one of many, was in Nigeria, in 1961, and my last time was in 2007, when I led a student group to Senegal for an intensive course at Bentley University.

I have lived and worked in several African countries: Southern Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, South Africa, Ghana, Ethiopia, and Senegal, where I did my doctoral research. I was also an international observer for the elections in South Africa in 1994 that brought Nelson Mandela to power, ending centuries of apartheid rule there.

I retired to Raleigh in 2008 after teaching African history at Bentley University and selected this fair city because my son teaches at NCSU. His family lives near by.

**Democratic Women of Wake County
Mabel Claire Maddrey Award for
Distinguished Service
2012
Nomination Guidelines**

The Mabel Claire Maddrey Award for Distinguished Service was established in 1997 to honor long time member, Mabel Claire Maddrey. Former president and founder of the JJ Breakfast; she epitomized the spirit of service to the club and the Democratic Party. The award is given each year to a club member who has consistently provided outstanding service to the club and the Democratic Party over the years. The award is to recognize those members who routinely do the hard work in the background without expectation of recognition or reward. The nominee should have been a dues paying member of the Democratic Women of Wake County for at least five years.

Nominations should be made in writing describing the nominee's significant contributions of time and effort in service to the club and significant contributions of time to the Democratic Party during local, state and national elections. Please include the nominator's name, phone number and email address.

The award will be given at the May meeting.

Send the form by 20 April 2012 to
Christina B. Terrell
205 Woodburn Road
Raleigh, NC 27605
Or
Terrell4@earthlink.net

Previous winners include Mabel Claire Maddrey, Martha Farmer, Shirley S. Fowler, Mary H. Poole, Gail Christian, Mary Alice Simmons, Sr., Doris Burke, Ellen Taylor, Christy Block Terrell, Mary Coker Joslin, Mary Alice Simmons, Jr, Nancy Looper, Betsy L. Watson, and Rachel Eagles.

Nancy Looper and Christy Terrell
DWWC Awards Co-Chairs

"SAVE THE DATE"

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2012

The Democratic Women of Wake County will host the 43rd Annual Jefferson-Jackson Breakfast on Saturday, June 16, 2012 at the Raleigh Convention Center, 500 Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on one of the committees listed below, please contact Jackie Dixon-Mason, Chair, (919) 463-0560, email dixonmason7015@live.com
Committees: Publicity, Ticket/Sponsor Sales, Hostesses, Decorations, Entertainment, and other volunteer committees.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Thanks for your continued support of DWWC.

Jackie Dixon-Mason
2012 JJ Chair
Carolyn Mayo, Co-Chair
Nilesh Surti, Co-Chair

Effects of Redistricting on May Primary

Several long serving incumbent democratic legislators have announced they will not seek re-election for the 2013-2014 term. This has increased over the past several weeks as the redistricting fight continues. While a panel of judges ruled not to move the primary they will allow two suits filed against the redistricting maps to continue.

Many are disenchanted with the current environment at the General Assembly and increased commitment as a result of numerous sessions. Among those retiring are Rep. Weiss and there will be an emerging primary battle between Rep. Martin and Rep. Ross. As we are approaching the filing date we must remain focused on supporting our candidates.

Monica Yelverton
Newsletter Co-Chair

If you have any articles you would like printed or pictures to contribute, please email them to me at monicayelverton@gmail.com.

Please visit our website at <http://dwwc.net/>.

Monica Yelverton, Newsletter Co-Chair