



WAKE DEMOCRATIC WOMAN



January 2012

Published by Democratic Women of Wake County



Democratic Women of Wake County will hold a luncheon meeting on Thursday, January 26, 2012 at the NC State University Club, 4200 Hillsborough Street in Raleigh.

Sarah Preston, Policy Directory for ACLU NC, will present details of the major legislation of the 2011 Session that reversed or diminished women's rights.

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 Monday, January 23, 2012.

President's Message



Happy New Year DWWC Members,

I hope you enjoyed a wonderful and safe holiday. Now, it is time for us to start a campaign of reaching out to our citizens by encouraging them to get registered and to

vote, if we are to ensure that our local candidates are elected and President Barack Obama wins again in North Carolina. Let's join together and encourage people to get involved in their precincts to learn more about the candidates and the election process and to contact Wake County Democratic Party office to become a volunteer.

We have a lot to do this year, so let's get busy by continuing to build our base so we can be successful and work hard to keep North Carolina a "Blue" state.

Respectfully,

CALENDAR

January 21st

Valentine Fundraiser
Phone Banking
11:00am-3:00pm

January 25th

Valentine Fundraiser
Phone banking
6:00pm-9:00pm

January 26th

Wake Democratic
Women Monthly
Luncheon
NC State University
Club
11:30am-1:00pm

February 4th

Mary H. Starkey, President

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NOW
Support the Organization. Support the
Democratic Party

Fellow Members of DWWC:

Our by-laws state that membership in DWWC is 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.

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. 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 January to renew your membership and collect your copy of the membership directory.

**Marylee Crofts,
First VP and Membership Chair**

"SAVE THE DATE"
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2012

The Democratic Women of Wake County will host the 42nd 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 jdixon5530@aol.com

Valentine Fundraiser
Phone banking
11:00am

February 11th
Final Valentine
Fundraiser Phone
banking

February 17th
32nd Annual Valentine
Fundraiser
NCAE Building
5:30pm-8:00pm

DOES ANYONE
NEED A CARD?

If you know of anyone
who is sick, please
contact Lindy Brown
lindy93@aol.com
so we can send a
card.

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

Congratulations Pauline Latta on Celebrating your 100th Birthday

Long-time member, Pauline Latta celebrated her 100th birthday on January 9th. In observance of her birthday Pauline had a big bash at the Baptist Church downtown and over 200 people attended. Please join us in celebrating this commemorative occasion.

Wake Student Assignment Plan Update

Now that the new school board has settled into office they have begun the difficult task of working with the newly implemented student assignment plan. There has been some concern about making changes before continuing on with the new plan. Over the last few weeks the board has held several work sessions to discuss the concerns. Concerns surrounding the plan include the ability of low-performing students to having access to high-performing schools, the fiscal impact of the new plan, and thoughts regarding the feeder patterns. Though the plan will move forward as passed in October members have promised continued monitoring and oversight.

Monica Yelverton, Co-Chair

Newsletter Committee

Women In Public Service

As we enter into another exciting election year, the Issues Committee is seizing the opportunity to highlight the DWWC women candidates and encourage others.

The district lines were drawn and we find ourselves with the task of deciding who should represent us. First and foremost it must at all costs be a democrat. Second, we have enjoyed the dynamic leadership

of Representative Deborah Ross and Representative Rosa Gill. Let's continue the trend and follow suit with other great women. Lastly, we should base our decision on qualifications, records, personality, passion and the ability to lead. While re-electing President Obama is important to the party, another target is House Seat District 38. The candidates that I am familiar with are, former County Commissioner, Lindy Brown and Executive Director of Project Ricochet Inc, Abeni El-Amin. Lindy is experienced, charismatic and driven. Abeni is organized, focused, and an innovator. The official filing date is February 29, 2012. It has been proven that women in public service can get the job done while remaining dedicated to the party.

I hope each person reading will become motivated to continue to follow each candidate, join the DWWC or accept the call of public service.

Thank you to all the Women elected officials and candidates.

*Carolyn Mayo, Chair
Issues Committee, DWWC*

Legislative Update

Veto Override

State lawmakers returned to the General Assembly in December to override the Governor's veto of SB 9 No Discriminatory Purpose in Death Penalty also known as the racial justice act repeal. After failing to reach the 3/5 majority needed to override the veto members instead considered an override of SB 727 No Dues Checkoff for School Employees. The measure passed Thursday night sometime after midnight with a vote of 69-45, 6 members were absent. The veto override would eliminate the voluntary dues checkoff option for public school employees.

Many have expressed concerns regarding the constitutionality of the late night session and the merits of implementing legislation that singles out one specific group. The NCAE has filed a complaint thus resulting in a temporary order to stop the law from going into effect. The next session is scheduled to reconvene on February 16th 2012.

Redistricting Challenge

The state has asked the courts to dismiss challenges to the approved redistricting maps. After holding a lengthy hearing the three judge panel didn't reach a decision. Opponents of the maps allege that they limit the power of minority voters by packing larger numbers of black voters within the same districts. In addition, there is great concern over the numbers of split precincts and potential effects the

new maps will have on voters. While the process continues, concerns grow regarding the approaching primary elections. The next hearing is scheduled for January 20th.

***Monica Yelverton, Co-Chair
Newsletter Committee***



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 Editor