



WAKE DEMOCRATIC WOMAN



May 2011

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The Thursday, May 26 luncheon meeting of Democratic Women of Wake County features **North Carolina Party Chair David Parker.**

He

will address the issues facing the state and what he and the Democratic

Party are doing to combat these new challenges. The event will be at our

usual venue - the NC State University Club at 4200 Hillsborough Street.

The buffet lines open at 11:30 a.m. and the program begins at 12 noon.

Chairman Parker has 35 years of experience in state campaigns and fund raising for Democratic candidates. At the State level, he has been President of the Young Democrats of North Carolina and the First Vice Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party. At the national level, he has served on the Democratic National Committee since 1995. In addition, Parker has been a member of the North Carolina delegation at every National Convention since 1984. In 1976 he was Jimmy Carter's North Carolina Youth Coordinator and in 2008 he was an Obama Super-Delegate.

He has raised money and assisted many Democrats running for office in North Carolina. As campaign manager for Terry Sanford's US Senate campaign in 1992, he ran a fund raising effort that raised \$2.5 million. He has hosted dozens of fundraisers in his Iredell County home for local, statewide and national Democrats including Kay Hagan, Terry Sanford, John Edwards, Joe Biden and D.G. Martin. He was one of four "kids" who went around the State in 1976 and warmed up crowds for Jim Hunt in his first campaign for Governor. He has consulted or managed innumerable local and Congressional campaigns. Also, he has served as Precinct and County Chair in Iredell County and has raised money and/or served on the boards of many non-profit organizations.

Parker graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Economics and obtained his law degree from the UNC School of Law.

For reservations, email democraticwomenwakecounty@gmail.com or call Kay Parry-Hill at 782-7608. The deadline for reservations is Monday, May 23, 2011.

*Carol Spruill
Programs, 3rd Vice President*

President's Report to the Membership



Over the past two years it has been an honor to serve as your president and to lead a team of 29 outstanding women and one man who serve on the DWWC Board of Directors. Running an organization with 370 members

with our dynamic leadership team has been a wonderful experience. The energy and talent they provided for the club and their work behind the scenes to keep the club actively engaged is the key. It certainly proves that Democratic Women are the Life of the Party!!

Your officers have worked hard to retain as well as to grow the club membership. The first new member meeting last August resulted in direct involvement by these women in our activities including becoming members of the board. A special effort has just begun to recruit women from various international groups here in the Triangle to educate them on our political process. Our first membership brochure was developed to use in recruiting. Through outreach to all new members we hope that DWWC will continue to gain new leaders who can energize the club and provide leadership for the future.

Our monthly luncheons have attracted close to 100 people a month to hear elected officials, party leaders or to learn about important issues of the day. Members have been engaged in the Q & A sessions that have followed. Calls to action for volunteers always brings forth assistance for candidates and issues. Our food drive for the J. Randolph Foundation provided 800

CALENDAR

May 26

Luncheon Meeting:
Speaker David Parker,
Chair NC Democratic Party
** *New Officer Installation Officers*
will be sworn in by Judge
Margaret Eagles
**

Mabel Claire Maddrey Award

June 25

DWWC Board Retreat
9 AM -noon
Martha Farmer's home

Municipal Elections

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

- Wake County Board of Education
Districts 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8,
City of Raleigh and Town of Cary
Municipal Elections

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

- Municipal Elections, Runoff
Elections (if necessary)
for Wake County Board of Education,
City of Raleigh and Town of Cary

Newsletters

are being mailed to those
without email by Ann Howe.
If you know of someone who
needs a newsletter or didn't get one
please call Ann at 834-7547.

New nominating committee members:

Gale Adcock
Linda Gunter
Pat Hawkins
Rachel Eagles

pounds of food for unemployed union workers. The first Betty Ann Knudsen Award was given to honor a woman who has been engaged politically and made a difference in the community. The first recipient was Cary Town Councilwoman Gale Adcock.

Partnering with the Wake County Democratic Party, DWWC assisted with events and fundraising activities, paid \$3000 for the slate cards for the November 2010 election, and worked outside the polls for our Democratic candidates at the Cary early voting location. Many of our members serve as precinct judges or workers on election day or work outside polling places handing out information for Democratic candidates.

The JJ Breakfast in 2010 provided the club with the funds to donate \$15,000 in profit to Democratic candidates in the 2010 election. This year the JJ Breakfast will yield close to \$10,000 for candidates in 2011 and 2012.

I would like to salute the 2009-2011 DWWC officers for the leadership they have provided the club over the past two years. They have devoted their time, energy, and talents to maintain DWWC as the premier club in the state and were the key to everything we accomplished as a team. We all wish Mary Starkey and her new team the best as they take over the reins of leadership at the May meeting.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your president and for the support everyone gave me over the past two years.

Linda Gunter
President, DWWC
dwwcpresidentlinda@earthlink.net

Margie Maddox

DOES ANYONE NEED A CARD?

If you know of anyone who is sick, please contact Jacqueline Dixon-Mason at jdixon5530@aol.com or call her at 463-0560 so we can send a card.

**JJ Breakfast Event is
a Hit!**

Our signature event, the annual Jefferson-Jackson Day Breakfast, was again a success thanks to the hard work and enthusiasm of our members and event sponsors. Nearly 300 attendees were thrilled to hear our **Keynote Speaker Governor Bev Perdue** who inspired us with an unwavering support for public education. Governor Perdue reminded us of her support for core NC values - economic growth, civil and voting rights, and access to quality health care. We know we have a partner in Governor Perdue in ensuring our Party will fight against those wanting to turn the clock back! Watch video of Gov. Perdue's remarks at: <http://youtu.be/Gu-CdKqk8Gc>

Governor Perdue and First Gentleman Bob Eaves are longtime participants with the JJ Breakfast, but this was the first year the Governor joined us as the Keynote Speaker. We were so pleased to also welcome **Lt. Governor Walter Dalton** and **his wife Lucille** as our special guests. Dalton provided a strong message of support for our working families and issues that support and foster economic growth in the State. A new feature on our program was a Legislative Update, provided from **House Caucus Whip Rep. Deborah Ross**. Ross spoke to the multitude of conservative-led anti-women legislation, which impact working women, voting rights and reproductive health care. All three speakers issued a strong call to action to attendees and the DWWC members to contact their elected officials and ensure that women's voices are heard in the legislative process. Contact information for the General Assembly can be found at <http://www.ncleg.net>

The DWWC appreciates the hard work of the volunteer leaders for the 2011 JJ Breakfast and issues a special thank you to all of our event sponsors. The DWWC Board has voted to allot all profits from the JJ Breakfast to our candidate contribution fund!



NC Gov. Bev Perdue



NC Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton & Rep. Deborah Ross (D-Wake)



NC Democratic Party Chair David Parker

A special thank you is due as well to the fabulous JJ Singers: Barbara Allen, Sandra Close, Laurita Kellison and Sylvia O'Kelly. They received a warm welcome after a year's hiatus. Watch a short video at: <http://youtu.be/D5vu3EKAnm4>. Congratulations ladies on 40 years of political parody and musical excellence!

Remember our theme - **Back to Blue, It's up to You!** Mark your calendars today for October 11th and November 8th.

**Christy Agner,
Program Chair JJ**

May Program

The March 31, 2011 meeting of the Democratic Women of Wake County was held at the NC State University Club on Hillsborough St. Councilwomen Mary-Ann Baldwin, and Nancy McFarlane, and Commissioner James West spoke on the topic "Ten Years from Now in Our Metropolitan Area: What Should, and Will, It Look Like?"

Councilwomen Baldwin spoke about how the demographics of the Raleigh area will change in the future. She noted that one in five Americans will be over 65 years old and we will see a denser population.

Councilwoman Nancy McFarland also spoke about the potential population increases in the next 20 - 30 years. She added that water use will need to be addressed. Falls Lake is impaired now and needs to be cleaned. They are working on a new infiltration system for the near future.

Commissioner James West has served as Mayor Pro-Tem and was on the Raleigh City Council from 2003-2010, representing District C. He feels that we should keep one eye on the horizon and also look at the traps along the path to the future. We should watch the sales tax, legislation and look at



JJ Singers



**Monica Yelverton, David Parker,
Christy Terrell and Linda Gunter**



**NC's First Gentleman
Bob Eaves & Barbara K. Allen**

how to use the land and our transportation system. Bicycle lanes and bus lanes are needed as the population of Raleigh increases through the years. Also, more affordable housing will be needed. Right now Morrisville is planning an affordable housing complex. As the land is developed we also must keep in mind environmentally friendly designs.

On the issue of billboards in the Raleigh area, Councilwoman Baldwin says that we must contact our representatives and especially our newly elected officials in order to try to prohibit this clutter. Phone calls and emails to our representatives must be made.

The transit system will have to be improved in the near future, according to Councilwoman Baldwin. More express buses are needed for downtown Raleigh and to run out to RTP. As our population increases, light rail will be needed to bring people to their jobs. It is important to support the proposal for a high speed rail between Raleigh and Charlotte, along the corridor between Washington DC and Atlanta. This will bring more jobs to the area and our legislators must be contacted for support of this proposal.

Patty Dillon, the North Carolina Field Coordinator for Planned Parenthood also spoke. She mentioned that unfortunately there have been attacks on funding here in North Carolina on family planning programs. She asked the members of the DWWC to contact our legislators to support Planned Parenthoods programs.

Nancy Nemargut

Salute to the

2009-2011 Board of Directors

1st Vice President- Mary Starkey
2nd Vice President- Kay Parry-Hill
3rd Vice President- Carol Spruill
Secretary- Rosemarie Downie
Treasurer- Grace Ann Chirico
Assistant Treasurer- Judy Austin
Historian-Mell Robson
Corresponding Secretary- Jackie Dixon-
Mason
Past President- Pat Hawkins
Awards- Christy Terrell
Bylaws- Carolyn Honeycutt and Rachel
Eagles
Chaplain- Mana Johnson
ER Club- Martha Farmer
Hospitality- Leigh Blow and Meredith
Watson
Issues- Barbara Ann Hughes
JJ Breakfast- Christy Agner
Newsletter- Monica Yelverton
Nominating- Betsy Watson
Reservations- Jan Wilson and Lusi Radford
Special Projects- Stephanie El Bialy
Volunteers- Mary Alice Simmons
Ways and Means- Ann Howe
Website- Glenn Looper and Nancy Looper
NCDP- Sallie Leslie
Parliamentarian- Juanita Bryant

Eleanor Roosevelt Luncheon

Cheri Poucher, Executive Director of the Wake County Board of Elections, will be at our May meeting to recruit Democrats to serve as judges and registrars in various precincts around Wake County. These workers help on Election Day by staffing the polls and are paid for their time.

If you are interested in assisting in this capacity, please call the Wake County Board of Elections at 856-6240 or talk to Cheri about the responsibilities and volunteer at our next meeting.



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

*Photographs provided by
Mary Jane Clark, Betsy Wells, Jennifer
Wadsworth, and Mell Robson.*

