



## WAKE DEMOCRATIC WOMAN

October 2011



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At the Thursday, October 27th luncheon meeting of Democratic Women of Wake County, we will welcome NC Democratic Party Executive Director Jay Parmley, who will help us celebrate the results of the October 11th Municipal Elections and discuss our work going forward. Most recently the Executive Director of the South Carolina Democratic Party, Jay has an impressive resume and many years of experience in party politics in southern states.

Equality NC Interim Executive Director Alex Miller will update us on the so-called "Marriage Amendment" passed by the Republican-led NC General Assembly this year.

Find out what the anti-gay amendment is and how you can help defeat it at the polls in May 2012.

The 2nd Annual Betty Ann Knudsen Award will be presented. The recipient will be surprised along with the luncheon attendees. Join us to find out who it is....

The event will be at the NC State University Club, 4200 Hillsborough Street. The buffet lines open at 11:30 a.m. and the program begins at 12:00 noon. The cost for lunch is \$16.00.

For reservations email [democraticwomenwakecounty@gmail.com](mailto:democraticwomenwakecounty@gmail.com) or call Mell Robson, 919-467-0151.

The reservation deadline is Tuesday, October 25, 2011.

***Paula Wolf***  
***2nd Vice President/Programs Chair***

### **President's Message**

"Happy days are here again."

Congratulations to all of our democratic candidates for a "Big Win" on Tuesday, October 13th. It took hard work from

### CALENDAR

October 27th  
Luncheon Meeting  
NC State University  
Club  
11:30 AM-1:00 PM



our WCDP, the Coordinated Campaign staff and those dedicated volunteers who made phone calls, canvassed neighborhood and distributed literature outside of the polling places to make this happen. We still have another important election on Nov. 8th and we must be just as involved and dedicated to

ensure that our democratic candidates win on that day. As we move forward towards 2012, Charlotte is not that far away; we must continue to work for the betterment of our state and our country. So, democrats, let's join together all of our resources to get the job done for the democratic party.

*Respectfully,  
Mary H. Starkey, President*

## **Democratic Women State Convention**



"It takes a strong woman to get things done." The chorus of Chairman David Parker's song is still echoing in the minds of the hundreds of Democratic Women of North Carolina who attended the annual state convention. Hosted by Pitt County, the 51st meeting was strong from the word go.

In preparation for a community project, this summer clubs gathered items to donate to troops in war zones around the world. Women came through with so many donations that it took a few vans to move it to the charity's headquarters. A number of our members worked on sorting and bagging the thousands of items.

Highlights of the three-day event included:

- Attendance by many local and state lawmakers and judges;

November 7th  
Board Meeting  
Cameron Village  
Library  
5:00 PM

November 8th  
Board of Education  
District 3 Run-Off

November 12th  
Sweet Victory Party  
Goodwin House  
7:00 PM-10:00  
PM

November 17th  
Wake Democratic  
Women 50th  
Anniversary Gala  
NC State  
University Club  
5:30 PM-7:30 PM

- A dynamic and stirring speech from Governor Bev Perdue in which she stirred the "troops" to action in the October/November municipal elections and called for an all-out effort to elect Democrats up and down the ballot in next fall's general election. She spoke of the budget battle with the legislature and of the bills that were so egregious that she vetoed them. The Governor left the audience cheering for more;
- A presentation to the Governor of a large framed picture of her vetoing a bill surrounded by numerous signatures of Democratic women;
- An afternoon of work sessions that were packed by participants wanting to learn more about the Women Vote project, how to canvass for President Obama, Lillian's List, and more;
- An evening banquet at which we honored stars from many areas of the state, including Wake County's Judy Austin and Mell Robson;
- Another rousing speech, this time by Chairman David Parker who gave some sobering thoughts about the tactics of the Rs and who ended by singing his composition of "It Takes a Strong Woman";
- A Saturday breakfast where we heard from both the NC and national chairs of Obama for America; and
- An announcement that WAKE COUNTY WILL HOST THE CONVENTION IN 2012.

NC President Sarah Anderson and the state board plus the women of Pitt County deserve much praise and many thanks for a well planned, productive, and fun convention.

Wake County President Mary Starkey has called for volunteers to fill the many slots on the 2012 Convention Committee. Please contact her to get your name on the list. Dozens are needed for both large and small jobs.

*Pat Hawkins*

## **Breast Cancer Awareness**

This month is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and our goal within the Issues Committee of the DWWC is to highlight pertinent "issues" related to the Women of Wake County.

According to the North Carolina Central Cancer Registry, cancer of the female breast was the most frequently occurring and the 3rd leading cause of cancer death in North Carolina from 2004-2008. Wake County has projected 690 out of 3,987 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer. The projected reported deaths from breast cancer are 101 out of 1,356.

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure has been keeping North Carolina current and aware of the fight for survival from breast cancer for 30 years. Please consider attending an event to support the fight against breast cancer. Go to [www.komennctriangle.org](http://www.komennctriangle.org) for events.

***Carolyn Mayo, Chair  
Issues Committee, DWWC***



If you have any articles you would like printed or pictures to contribute, please email them to me at [monicayelverton@gmail.com](mailto:monicayelverton@gmail.com).

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

***Monica Yelverton, Newsletter Editor***