



Communicator

JANUARY 2023



We shall overcome
because the arc of the
moral universe is *long*
but it bends toward
justice.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
March 31st, 1968.

ACTION ALERT

The Food and Drug Administration has posted on its website that retail pharmacies will be allowed to sell abortion pills. This regulatory change also negates the previous requirement that a person must appear in-person to obtain the medication. There will also be provisions that protect the identity of those prescribing and receiving the medication.

More than half of the abortions in the U.S. are carried out using pharmaceuticals. After the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, there has been increasing interest in these medications.

There are 18 states that do not allow abortion consultations via telemedicine, and this is a complication for quick and accessible healthcare. Research the law in your state and share your findings with Audrey Dempsey via email: audreydempsey@mac.com.

If your state does not allow telemedicine practiced for abortion care, target your lawmakers to change their archaic laws.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by Gail Buckner



Greetings National Federation of Democratic Women,

Happy New Year! Beginning a new year is always a special time to reflect on the accomplishments of the previous year. Among the most notable NFDW achievements are the creation of the True Blue Award Certificate and the Profile in Leadership Award; the latter will be presented for the first time at our 2023 Annual Meeting, June 8 - 10th in New Orleans. Several states have already bestowed the True Blue Award Certificate to recognize their dedicated grassroots volunteers.

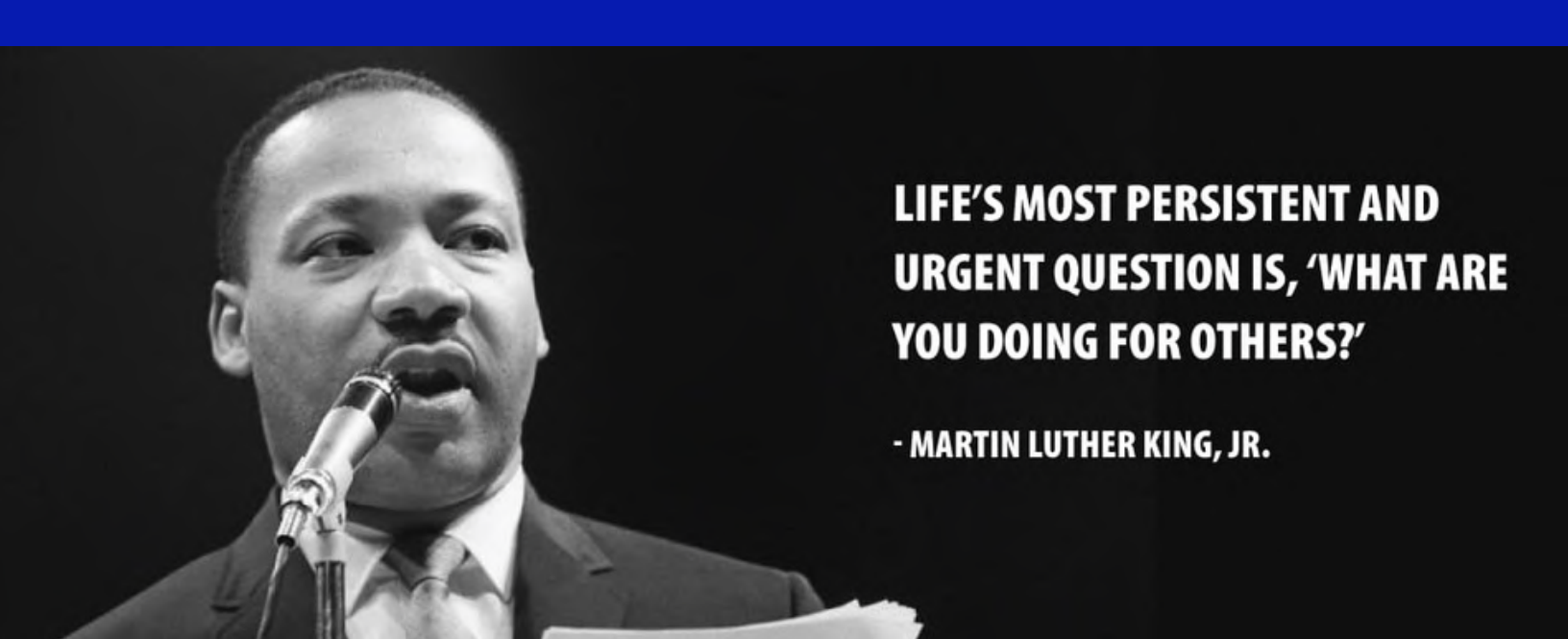
We must also salute the great Midterm Election that Democrats delivered. While we didn't achieve every elected office that we deserved, Democrats stopped the Red Tidal Wave that was being predicted. Once again Democrats from across the country helped Georgia win another senate seat run-off. The Alabama Federation of Democratic Women President LaTanya Milhouse brought a motor coach to Columbus, Georgia filled with dedicated volunteers who knocked on as many doors as they could find, and Congresswoman Nikema Williams, DPG Vice President Sarah Todd, Patricia Lassiter, and I joined the canvassing.

Thousands of postcards crisis-crossed the country from many federations encouraging GOTV. The Savannah Federation of Democratic Women sent 20,000 postcards to infrequent voters reminding them how important their vote is and how much they were needed. Some great stories should still be shared. Send your story to Beth Williams at mbethwilliams@comcast.net.

Women rose to the occasion and helped defeat many of the candidates and amendments that would further harm women's health and their right to make their own decisions about their bodies and their futures. South Carolina can now be added to our heroes in Kansas, Michigan, Kentucky, California, and Nevada.

NFDW has just conducted our first Listening Tour. Numerous states and members joined the Political Education and Training Committee and the Legislative Committee to share their thoughts on what our priorities should be for this year. Clearly, our members want to see a change in our country, and they want legislation to protect voting rights and fair elections, support women's healthcare, and preserve democracy. There was a call to end Citizens United. Many participants requested Listening Tours continue yearly.

A document is being compiled from the four **Listening Tour** sessions. It's not too late to add your input on what you think NFDW's priorities should be. Send an email today to **Lovie West: lovie.west@gmail.com**.



LIFE'S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS, 'WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS?'

- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

We have just celebrated Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. This great, transformational leader championed non-violent change in our country. Unfortunately, change doesn't come easily, and there has been terrible violence perpetrated by those who were against the movement. We reflect on MLK's life and legacy as we continue to learn from his work. As one person speaking on CNN said, "The more you do the more you know there is to do."

How wonderful it was that the media gave us the opportunity to listen to President Joe Biden speak at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta recalling Dr. King and the civil rights movement. This historic act was one of the most inspirational speeches of our lifetime. We will be revisiting this presentation many times when we need to renew our spirits and our mission.

Recently, NFDW's Past President and Bylaws Committee Chair Dr. Corinne Anderson said to me, "NFDW needs to repeat our objectives at our meetings,"

and she is correct. NFDW must never lose sight of who we are. From our Bylaws:

The objective of the organization shall be to unite women of the Democratic Party, to promote the cause of the Democratic Party, and to encourage full participation of women in every level of the Democratic Party Structure.

Best regards,

Gail Buckner

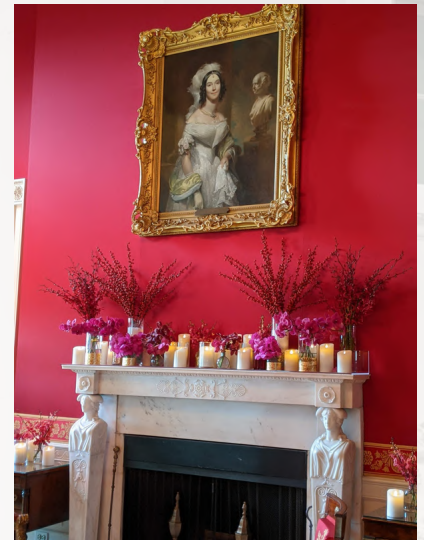


Woman's National Democratic Club President, Laura Whitaker, and NFDW President, Gail Buckner, at the Women's Leadership Forum meeting in DC.

WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS

Photos courtesy of Gail Buckner, NFDW President and R. Denise Everson, Communicator Editor

On Sunday, December 18, 2022, NFDW President Gail Buckner toured the White House along with a few guests.



*(Top) Façade decorated with fresh wreaths.
(Middle, L-R): Green Room; Red Room.
(Bottom, L-R): Wanda Bynum Ashley, Andrea Preister, Gail Buckner, and Annetta Fisher; Candles and red poinsettias arranged into the shape of a tree; R. Denise Everson's reflection in a mirrored ornament on a White House tree.*





(Top, L-R): Front row: Wanda Bynum Ashley, Gail Buckner, Gloria Jenkins, Andrea Preister, Back row: Eliese Fisher, Annetta Fisher, Ian Preister; (Middle, L-R): decorated mantle; miniature versions of the White House and the Naval Observatory. (Bottom, L-R): snowflakes projected on the ceiling of a hallway; portrait of First Lady Michelle Obama. (Upper right:) Gail Buckner and her husband under a snow-covered forest of Christmas glamour.



LEADERSHIP

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PARLIAMENTARIAN

Wanda Bynum Ashley

Arkansas

FOUNDER

Rilla Moran Woods

North Carolina

COMMUNICATOR EDITORS

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Washington, DC

Judy Villa

Connecticut

Beth Williams

Georgia

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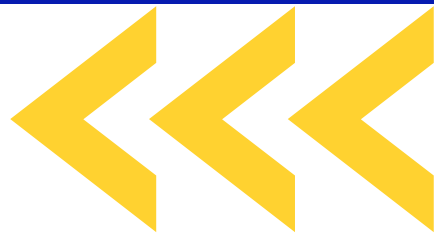
Joanne Sullivan

Connecticut

sullivanjl1028@gmail.com

SOUTHERN REGION REPORT

by Kathy Adams, NFDW Southern Region Director



Greetings, Women in Blue!

It is with great honor that I share works of the dynamic Southern Region, the largest region within NFDW comprised of (12) States with more than 11,000 active Federation members. We share common threads of attacks on our voting rights, the redistricting of our voting territories, egregious bills on gun safety, and challenges to a woman's right to choose.

One can only imagine that "everyone" has been busy this year with both progress and upheaval in elections and yet, Democrats persevered. However, in the Southern Region it has been a long, hard fought down to the wire battle with Runoff Elections making this election cycle "very" long but well worth it! We had over (160) Democratic women on ballots running for Executive Seats across the Southern Region. With our ongoing work, visibility, and support of these women who were willing to offer their time and service, we made record-breaking numbers by increasing the number of Democratic candidates by 52% more than those in 2021 with Primary Election wins.

During the Midterm Election year, we held two Southern Region meetings in-person despite the pandemic to strengthen the confidence of Democrats and voters. The first meeting was held in February in Charleston, SC with the theme of "Blue South Blue Wave". Thank you to the women of our South Carolina Federation for their work serving as the host state where there were nearly (100) guests and members that attended the in-person meeting over 2-days. There were sessions on "How to Engage Every Voter" and "Advocacy for Women's Rights" and more. Together we shared strategies that magnified women and Democrats.

Following up, each of our state presidents focused on the Primary and Runoff Elections with emphasis on down ballot voting and federal, state, and local elections of women and Democrats. Next, moving into the Midterm Elections, the work intensified with more voter education, fundraising, boots on the ground, and phone banking across state lines. Thank you to the women of the Alabama

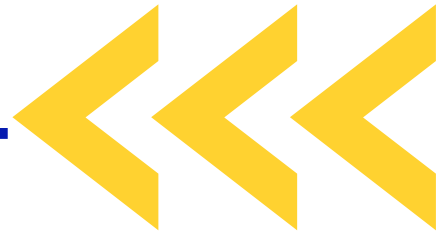
Federation for traveling to Georgia to help canvass, the women in Florida that phone banked, and the women in South Carolina that wrote post cards during the Runoff Election for Senator Rafael Warnock. There were others that collaborated across the region for our candidates, and we thank you. While not all races were won, Democrats were successful in some of our southern states with flipping seats and winning races that mattered most.

The Southern Region hosted its second regional meeting on the heels of the Midterm Elections in Biloxi, MS in mid-November. A hearty thank-you to the women of the Mississippi Federation for their work serving as host state. The meeting gathered nearly 200 attendees over the span of 2 days. The meeting's theme was "Defending Democracy". We held planning sessions, engaged in conversations with game changers, and shared strategic topics and methodologies.

Additionally, I presented the NFDW Southern Region Leadership Award to Congressman Bennie G. Thompson for his outstanding longstanding service not only to the constituents of Mississippi, but to the citizens of all these United States. While our Region has faced many obstacles from our opponents in an attempt to silence us, take control of our bodies, not provide us with quality healthcare, suppress our votes, and change the rules of the game in the middle of the game, our Women in Blue of the Southern Region continued to push forward working and encouraging women and Democrats to run for office across the region from our highest executive seats to our local seats, strengthening our visibility and serving our voters. Thank you for your tireless efforts, partnerships established, immersive networking, and support on our journey to limitless Democratic opportunities across the Southern Region. Together let's continue to change the look of the region and this nation's tapestry!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

by Virgie M. Rollins, Nominating Committee Chair



Nominating Committee

Your Nominating Committee for 2022-2023 has been charged with compiling a list of names of proposed officers for the Federation. Nominations are open to everyone, providing the nominee has met the following criteria. Nominations are being accepted for the positions of NFDW President, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Vice Presidents, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.

NFDW members are invited to consider running for office to lead this dynamic organization. Those from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. According to the NFDW Bylaws, there can be no more than two members from each region on the NFDW Executive Board. All terms are 2-year terms and positions are limited to one term only.

Members interested in running for office must submit a complete packet to NFDW Nominations Chair, Virgie M. Rollins @ virgiemrollins@hotmail.com before the end of business, **Friday, March 3, 2023**.

Nominating Process NFDW Officers

Officers must be from states holding full membership.

Include a letter of intent for the position you are seeking with a statement indicating you have been a Federation member for at least two (2) years.

Letter of support from your State Federation/ State President. Meeting minutes do not replace your letter of support.

Statement from your State Federation indicating they are a member in good standing with the NFDW.

A letter of support from your State Party Chair.

Officers are elected in the odd numbered year for a term of two (2) years.

No officer may serve more than one (1) term in the same office.

A nominee must have participated in at least one (1) NFDW Convention in which NFDW Officers were elected (odd numbered years) in addition to the one at which the election of officers is held.

Nominee's resumes must be submitted with talents/skills highlighted along with endorsements from your state federation and state party chair. Skills that highlight relevant skills to serve in the position for which you are seeking should be included in your resume or letter of intent.

Additional involvement and/or committee work on behalf of NFDW and your state federation is highly encouraged.

Submission of a wallet sized headshot photo for the Communicator Newsletter.

A signed statement from the candidate that says she will serve if elected to the office of "_____." This statement is requested after the candidate has been contacted by the Nominating Committee for permission to put forth her name.

No region shall have more than two (2) elected officers or more than one (1) from the same state.

Additional letters of recommendation from State Party Leaders, Congressional Leaders, Elected Officials. etc. are encouraged.

Candidates for NFDW office are discouraged from contacting Nominating Committee Members for support in this process. Nominating Committee members are to remain neutral and shall not endorse any candidates.

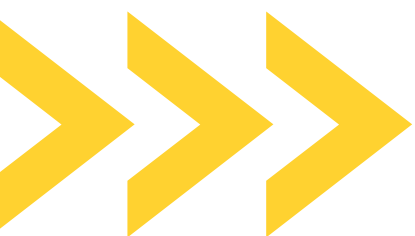
Complete by-laws can be located on our website at www.nfdw.com.

Completed Nominating Packets need to be sent to:

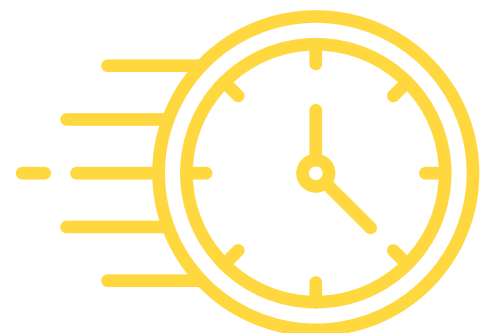
Virgie M. Rollins, Nominating Committee Chair
19432 Burlington Drive
Detroit, Michigan 48203-1454

or electronically to: virgiemrollins@hotmail.com.

The **March 3, 2023** deadline is firm and applications will not be accepted after that date.



Deadline
March 3, 2023



CALL FOR BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

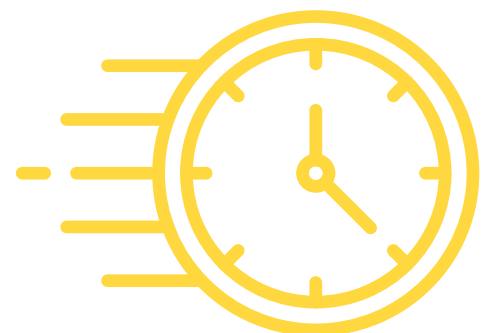


The call for Bylaws Amendments shall be issued at the convention and mailed within the quarter thereof. All proposed amendments to the bylaws shall be sent to both the Chair of the Bylaws Committee and to the President no later than February 1st. All amendments either proposed by the members-at-large or the Bylaws Committee shall be mailed with the Call to the Annual Meeting. The committee shall review all proposed amendments and make recommendations to the Annual Convention with respect to their adoption. (NFDW Bylaws, Article IX: Committees, Section 1 (a).

Corinne Williams Anderson, Ed.D., Chair, NFDW Bylaws Committee Email: hccaaand@aol.com

Gail Buckner, President, National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) Email: gailbuckner@bellsouth.net

**Deadline
February 1, 2023**



CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

Timeline for Resolutions Submission:

- Any time between April 1st through May 10th – resolutions must be submitted to the Chairs of the Resolutions Committee by to comply with lead time before the Annual Meeting in June.
- All submissions will be forwarded to the Resolutions Committee for review and editing suggestions;
- Substantive edits will be sent back to the original submitter;
- **May 10th – deadline for submission of all revisions or amendments.**
- Final drafts will be shared with all club presidents.
- The Resolutions Committee shall present all resolutions for a vote of approval at the Annual Meeting in June 2023.
- Resolutions from the floor will be accepted only for an emergent issue and must be signed by at least ten (10) delegates representing at least five (5) states.

Required Resolutions Format:

- Resolutions should be short and to the point, addressing only one concern, should contain no more than three statements beginning with "Whereas," and should make only one recommendation as an action statement beginning with "Resolved."
- The resolve should require action that is of national importance that can be accomplished. There should be only one issue in a resolution. If more than one is needed, a separate resolution should address that issue.
- These requirements are consistent with the DNC resolutions format and platform as approved NFDW resolutions are submitted to the DNC for consideration.

The total number of resolutions that are statements of principles is limited to seven (7) each year; commemorative or honorary resolutions may also be accepted. Each year, NFDW's adopted resolutions are filed with the Library of Congress, forwarded to the DNC, published in the Federation newsletter, and posted to the NFDW website.

Resolutions should be sent electronically to these email addresses:

dmurphymcgraw@hgmlobby.com

cesrosales@gmail.com

File Format: Easily editable electronic document (e.g. Word doc, No PDFs)

Suggested font: Verdana or Calibri

Suggested font size: 12 pt

If you have any questions, please call Co-Chairs

Ces Rosales (415)994-5101)

Denise Murphy McGraw (518)463-5449)

or NFDW President Gail Buckner (912)445-0230

Deadline: May 10, 2023

CALIFORNIA UPDATES

by Carolyn Fowler, State
Caucus Chair



Greetings,

All I can say is THANK YOU, CALIFORNIA! They say when the going gets tough the tough get going and them Dems Did That! Every written postcard, phone call, door knocked, rally attended, and text sent was the ultimate key to our success. I am proud of every candidate that stepped up to serve and our issue focused campaign messages to save our democracy. Your efforts will have contributed to us holding the Senate and the House!

There were two primary winners this cycle, women and democracy. Thank you for joining the celebration that discussed an election review, Federal partner action alerts impacting women, surprise guest speakers and the subject of the senseless attacks on our elected officials, candidates and election workers. Women now represent 42% in the California legislature. Statewide there were many first time women District Attorneys, City Attorneys and Mayors like Los Angeles, Mayor Karen Bass.

We are truly blessed in California to have fearless women leadership like Vice President Kamala Harris, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein, Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis, Treasurer Fiona Ma, Controller Malia Cohen, Secretary of State Shirley Weber, Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins, and CDP Vice Chair Betty Yee.

Women and Democracy prevailed last November Election Day! This wasn't just a history-defying midterm for our side -- it was a clear rejection of MAGA. The relentless fight for Reproductive Rights paid off. We turned out in record numbers and showed America and the world that we matter, that a woman's right to control her own body matters, and that when we come together, we can achieve anything!

We won critical races and created historic firsts, including passage of all five ballot measures codifying reproductive rights. From Michigan to Kentucky to California and beyond, women made sure they went out to vote to enshrine and protect their right to abortion in their state. What's more, Arkansas and Massachusetts elected their first female governors, including out lesbian, Maura Healey. John Fetterman's historic win in Pennsylvania has given Democrats the Senate majority. Yadira Caraveo was elected in a key swing seat that was a true toss-up. She's the first Latina elected to Congress from Colorado.

While we partner with many organizations, I want to publicly thank Grassroots HQ led by Tamera Levenson and Mana Shooshtari for their leadership and support of our idea for "MASTO Mondays" which the Board early on thought would be critical to holding the Senate. We were in partnership with Nevada Democratic Victory, California Democratic Party, Women's March Action, and Women's Political Committee. The phonebank and texts by their incredible group of youth will no doubt have contributed to a Nevada win. I would also like to thank the incredible CADEM staff led by our Executive Director, Yvette Martinez. Despite all the challenges, there was no task too large or too small for them to accomplish.

CALIFORNIA UPDATES

IN MEMORIAM: ROZ WYMAN

Rest in power, our Shero!

L.A. POWER BROKER Rosalind Wyman was a major player in Democratic Party politics for decades and a key figure in getting the Dodgers to move to Los Angeles. My Libra sister, DNC Member and friend will be missed.



Roz Wyman
1930 - 2022

FALL/WINTER PHOTO GALLERY



CONNECTICUT UPDATES

By Joyce Petteway, President

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

On December 11, 2022, the Connecticut Federation of Democratic Women held a Holiday Celebration Luncheon to recognize the **100th anniversary of CFDW, the oldest Democratic Women's Club in the United States.** Founder Fannie Dixon Welch, a Suffragist and believer in the power of Democratic women to effect change, formed this organization to "train local women to understand the workings of government and to take our places side by side with men."

A light snowfall in Hartford did not deter the warmth and collegiality of members from across the state.

Several dignitaries congratulated CFDW for a century of activism and accomplishments, especially celebrating the federation's tireless work in the midterm elections. Heartfelt words of gratitude were

expressed by Hartford's Mayor Luke Bronin, Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, State Senator Cathy Osten, Former State Treasurer Denise Nappier, and U. S. Senator Richard Blumenthal. (A very special "Thank you" to the Senator for his sponsorship of this event and the citations he presented.) Keynote speaker Congresswoman Jahana Hayes inspired the gathering by emphasizing her commitment to caring for others and serving all people through good government.

The program concluded with a video presentation on the history of CFDW.

Kudos to Tina Prakash, Secretary of the State's office; Former CFDW and NFDW President Joanne Sullivan, and CFDW member researchers Debra Dickey and Pat Sirois for an excellent retrospective.



Mayor Luke Bronin



CFDW President Joyce Petteway



Lt. Governor Bysiewicz

CONNECTICUT UPDATES



Congresswoman Jahana Hayes



Joanne Sullivan, Jahana Hayes, and Joyce Petteway



Senator Richard Blumenthal



Luncheon Table Setting

ALABAMA UPDATES

by LaTanya Milhouse, President



GET OUT THE VOTE

Alabama Federation of Democratic Women President LaTanya Milhouse coordinated a motor coach trip of volunteers who traveled to Columbus, Georgia to help get out the vote for Senator Raphael Warnock. The volunteers included almost two dozen students from Tuskegee Institute.

These volunteers were joined by Congresswoman Nikema Williams, who also serves as Chair of the Democratic Party of Georgia. Others included DPG Vice President Sarah Todd and Patricia Lassiter. Muscogee Democratic Party Chair Tonza Thomas and NFDW President Gail Buckner were also on site helping with the event.



IDAHO UPDATES

By Gini Ballou, Caucus President



Hello from snowy Idaho! We want to report that while the results on Election Day did not turn out as we had hoped across our state, the hard work of Democratic women across our state does not go unnoticed.

The weekend after the election, President Gini Ballou worked with the Idaho Secretary of State (SOTS)'s office and was one of the Democratic representatives during the Post-Election Audit. Each team had a Democrat, a Republican and a member of the SOTS office. Counties and precincts were randomly drawn from around the state, and we were dispatched in teams to various locations to hand count the ballots. In total, there were 3 teams selected.

All the ballots they audited were correct; only one had an off number and it was one, and it is believed that they will still locate the spoiled ballot. Apparently, the clerk in a small-town community remembered a voter coming in early to vote, being told the county issue he was opinionated about wasn't available to him, as a city resident, to vote on. At which time the voter said to hell with it, he wasn't voting and tried to leave with the ballot and ripped it up when he was told he couldn't keep it. The clerk believes it is in an envelope, just couldn't put their hands on it during the 6 hours that the audit team was there.

Gini states that among the three teams and the SOS staff, the Republicans had been living in Idaho for a combined total of less than 12 years. They were all from California and spent their time saying how California was ruined by Democrats in the various campaigns they had worked on, and lost, so they moved to Idaho. They complained that we are heading down the California Highway. As if Idaho is some sort of socialist paradise instead of one of the reddest states in the country.

We also want to give kudos to Linda Larson, a Democratic woman from Northern Idaho. She serves as the Bonner County Democratic Party chair and is the Reclaim Idaho Bonner County co-leader.



She held postcard writing parties, informational meetings, and GOTV efforts that made significant headway into the reddest of districts. She also organized a write-in campaign when no one was willing to challenge a far-right Republican that wants to abolish abortion. While the write-in candidate still lost, he won 43% of the vote in Linda's county and beat every other Democratic candidate's vote count by a wide margin.

There was also a meeting of Idaho Women for Biden/Harris who wrote postcards and held a meeting with women from Georgia. One woman connected with the author of her postcard and shared how it had spurred her to bring four friends to the polls! At a time when people were busy with their holiday shopping and parties, one postcard from rural Idaho helped increase voter turnout!

Even in our darkest red areas, our efforts can make a difference!

MISSISSIPPI UPDATES

By Lovie West, President

The Mississippi Federation of Democratic Women was honored to host the 2022 Southern Region Fall Meeting in Biloxi, MS. The theme was "Defending Democracy," and the two-day event took place on November 11-12, 2022.

The Friday reception agenda included an uplifting inspirational moment by Teresa Roberts, MFDW Chaplain, and motivational remarks presented by Dr. Johnny Dupree, Former Mayor of Hattiesburg, MS set the tone for the Fall Meeting. Greetings were presented by Kathy Adams, Southern Region Director, and Gail Buckner, NFDW President. Virgie Rollins, DNC Black Caucus Chair, shared NFDW thoughts, including the roles women play in the Democratic Party. The reception was co-sponsored by Harrison County Federation of Democratic Women.

The Saturday Fall Meeting began with a hearty southern style breakfast, followed by the traditional "Roll Call of States," Regional States updates, and regional and national addresses. On the program was panel discussion with the following topics: Recruitment & Retention, Club Branding, Club Programming, and Digital Marketing.

Presenters were Elizabeth Goodwin, Gracie Ziegler, JoAnne Bland, and Shawn Jackson. The Roundtable GAMECHANGER: "Harnessing Our Power" was facilitated by Deborah Williams, Ph.D., and included gamechangers on the national level, such as: Rhonda Briggins, JD; Felicia Brown-Williams; Brook Herman; Christine Pelosi; Angela Turner-Ford, MS Senator; and Teresa Younger.

The closing event was our Blue & White Gala, A Salute to Congressman Bennie G. Thompson. The Mistress of Ceremony was the legendary anchor and reporter Pam Hamner. A VIP grand entrance allowed the event to showcase and recognize our VIP guests. An Honor Guard presentation from the local high school that consisted of all girls was a special tribute, and there were a dozen students from Coahoma Community College who dedicated a special performance to the Congressman. There were seven (7) cities from Mississippi who presented proclamations declaring Saturday, November 12th Congressman Bennie G. Thompson Day. Jazz Singer Effie Burt was the highlight of the evening with a rousing performance, including a song she wrote in dedication to Congressman Thompson. The Congressman was also presented the Southern Region Medal of Freedom Award and a Democratic Blue Jacket by the MS Federation of Democratic Women. Wanda Ashley, NFDW Parliamentarian; William Colon, Esq., Honorary Committee Chair; Johnnie Patton, Capital Campaign, Co-Chair; Dr. Corinne Anderson; Gloria Carpenter; Kay Sims; Amanda Dear-Jones; Kelly Jacobs; Jodie Brown, and many, many more also served on the program.

Please listen to the recorded speech from Congressman Bennie G. Thompson at:



MISSISSIPPI UPDATES

2022 SOUTHERN REGION FALL MEETING PHOTO GALLERY



NEVADA UPDATES

by Audrey Dempsey, President



Senator Catherine Cortez Masto

The NVFDW Board members Audrey Dempsey, Ellen Spiegel, Patricia Cuocco, and Barbara Oliver attended the 84th annual NEVADA DAY PARADE on Saturday, October 29, 2022, in Carson City, NV. This is the largest celebration of statehood in the country, with around 200 entries and lots of excitement. We rode on the Northern Nevada Democrats' float. Following the four-hour long parade, we attended the Democratic reception where we heard from Governor Steve Sisolak, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, and other candidates ahead of the midterm elections.

To remember the tragic shooting in Las Vegas five years ago, we held an event on October 1 with over 100 attendees present. We started with our State Assembly Woman Sandra Jauregui, who was at the concert on Oct 1 and held a prayer of remembrance from Senator Pat Spearman. All the speakers at the event, including our Nevada Congresswomen Susie Lee and Dina Titus, as well as our keynote Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, discussed issues that impact our community. The event was a huge success, and it was great to bring everyone together to honor our community!



NVFDW Board members Ellen Spiegel, Patricia Cuocco, Audrey Dempsey, and Barbara Oliver at the 84th annual NEVADA DAY PARADE.



L-R: Christine Pelosi, Dina Titus, Audrey Dempsey, Susie Lee, Monica Readus, and Gini Ballou

NEW JERSEY UPDATES



From our Essex County Chapter President, Bessie Walker: We thank the many members of the Essex Chapter for participating in the great victory of Senator Raphael Warnock. We received the call to support our Democratic Federal Senator from Georgia and we didn't waver. We phoned over 1,500 people, sent 2,000 post cards, and donated approximately \$1,200.

We also did phone banking for various New Jersey State Democratic candidates in districts throughout the state. Special thanks to Dr. Joyce Harley for her exceptional work, support, and contribution in our state elections and for the Georgia election.



Dolores attended the National Council of Negro Women's 60th convention. Pictured with Alexis Herman, Secretary of Labor during President Clinton's administration.

OUTSTANDING ELECTED OFFICIAL AWARD



The NJFDW presented the NFDW Outstanding Elected Official Award to our Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver in mid-November at the NJ League of Municipalities Convention in Atlantic City, NJ. Pictured are, from left to right, Roberta Walters (President of the Somerset County Federation of Democratic Women and NJFDW Secretary), Rachel Green (First Vice President of NJFDW and President of the Gloucester County Federation of Democratic Women), Nancy D'Andrea (Somerset County Democratic Committee Secretary and NJ State Committeewoman), Peg Schaffer (Vice Chair of the New Jersey State Democratic Committee and Somerset County Democratic Chair), Sheila Oliver (Lieutenant Governor of the GREAT STATE OF NEW JERSEY!), Margaret Weinberger (President of the NJFDW and Chair of the Somerville Democratic Committee), Liz Graner (Chairwoman of the Green Brook Democratic Committee, and Shanel Robinson (Somerset County Commissioner).

NEW YORK UPDATES



Our Lunch and Learn Is Back in 2023 !

Take a break for lunch and join us for some virtual learning on the anniversary of the January 6th Insurrection. Hear from Sen. Anna Kaplan about the threats we continue to face in New York and elsewhere.



Lunch & Learn

with the

**NEW YORK STATE FEDERATION
of DEMOCRATIC WOMEN**

Friday, January 6

12:00 to 12:45 pm

The Threat of Hate in America



With Honored Guest

Senator Anna Kaplan

The first political refugee and the first Iranian-American elected to the New York State Senate, Anna has been outspoken about the need to combat the crisis of domestic extremism through education, awareness, and tougher hate crime laws.

TENNESSEE UPDATES

by Marisa Richmond, Ph.D., President

WE'VE BEEN BUSY!

Since the National Convention in June, the Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women has actively supported several candidates across the state at all levels of government.

At our Fall Board Meeting in September, we allocated a total of \$12,000 to Dr. Jason Martin for Governor, several candidates for the Tennessee General Assembly, and even for one County Commission candidate in Williamson County. We also allocated an additional \$1,000 each to two Constitutional Amendment campaigns: Vote No on 1 ("Right to Work") and Vote Yes on 3 (Remove Slavery).



Furthermore, we delivered funds from the National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) for Congressional candidates and were pleased to present donations to both Heidi Campbell (District 5) and Odessa Kelly (District 7). Unfortunately, both were defeated this fall due to gerrymandering.

Members of TFDW actively campaigned across the state for Federal, State, and Local Democratic candidates. The newly chartered group in Loudon County even wrote post cards to Arizona voters, helping achieve the victories in that state. In addition, members from southeastern Tennessee clubs crossed the border, campaigning for Sen. Raphael Warnock in neighboring Georgia, thus helping him win reelection in the run-off election there. This helped secure a Democratic majority in the United States Senate.

Shortly after the election, several members of TFDW attended the NFDW Southern Regional Meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi.

While Tennessee remains firmly in the grip of the Republican Party, Democratic Women were fully engaged in various elections and community events and are committed to moving forward in 2023 and 2024. We are looking forward to our State Convention in April in Oak Ridge, and participating in the National Convention in New Orleans in June.



OKLAHOMA UPDATES

OFDWC clubs across the state were all in with voter registration, voter education, and voter mobilization activities leading up to Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Voter education efforts included hosting opportunities for our Democratic candidates to meet & mobilize activists and the public. Due to our concerted efforts and support from the Oklahoma Democratic Party, our talented candidates, and communities in all areas of the state, OFDWC was also able to contribute a record amount of financial support to assist our candidates this year. Additionally, our two candidates for U.S. Senate seats—Kendra Horn and Madison Horn—received financial support from the NFDW PAC. Oklahoma women lead the way and lived up to our motto: *Engage! Educate! Empower!*

Pre-election activities included:

Saturday, July 2, 2022 - OFDWC members participated in the Bethany Liberty Fest Parade with Oklahoma County Democratic Party and our Democratic candidates.

Saturday, July 16, 2022 - Garfield County FDWC Candidate Cookout, Government Springs Park, Enid

Friday, August 19, 2022 - Carter County FDWC members registered voters at the Ardmore Town Hall Meeting featuring Ms. Opal Lee, the National Grandmother of Juneteenth.

September 7 - 10, 2022 - Carter County FDWC distributed campaign literature and registered voters at the Carter County Free Fair.

Sunday, September 11, 2022 - Tulsa Heart of the Party FDWC "Just Desserts" Annual Fundraising Event

Monday, September 19, 2022 - South OKC Democratic Women Bingo Party & Candidate Meet & Greet. Representative Elect Arturo Alonso (HD-89) was the celebrity bingo caller.

Post-Election Activities Included:

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 - Carter County FDWC Membership Meeting. Program: Recap of the 2022 election season and membership drive. A time of reflection and renewal.

Sunday, December 11, 2022 - Oklahoma County Democrats Joint Reception to Honor 2022 Democratic Candidates.



Upcoming events include:

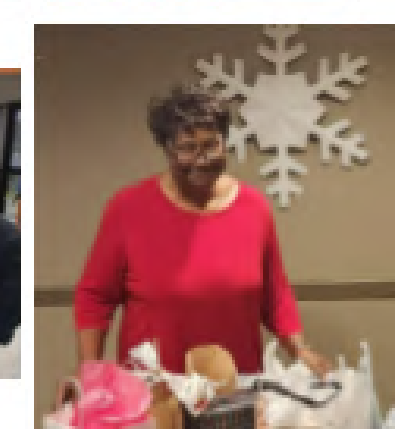
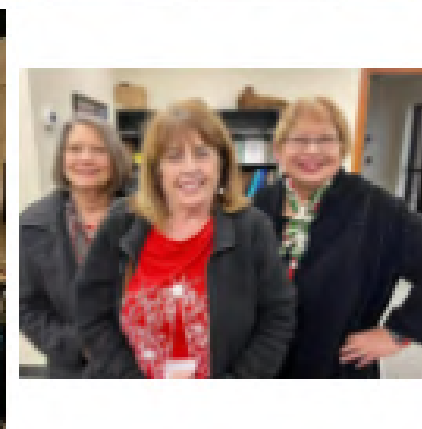
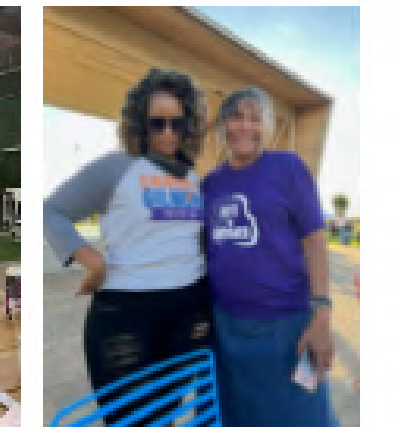
OFDWC Annual State Convention
"Women For The Win!"

**Thursday, March 23, 2023 to
Sunday, March 26, 2023**

Embassy Suites by Hilton
OKC Airport

1815 S. Meridian Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

OKLAHOMA UPDATES



PENNSYLVANIA UPDATES



OUTSTANDING ELECTED DEMOCRATIC WOMEN BRUNCH

On Sunday, November 20, the PFDW celebrated its annual Outstanding Elected Democratic Women (OEDW) Brunch, attended by over 200 members, elected officials, guests and honorees. In 2022, nineteen Democratic women from all across the state were honored. They serve as elected officials in the smallest municipality to the largest city, and all are equally important. To date, the PFDW has presented awards to over 200 Outstanding Elected Democratic Women! Keynote speaker was PA State Senator Judy Schwank, who extended greetings from the PA Senate and acknowledged the contributions of the honorees.

Honorees included: Shameeka Browne, Abington Township School Board; Patti Crossan, Centennial District School Board; Gina Curry, PA State Representative 164th District; Susan Rzucidlo, Mayor of Avondale Borough; Roshelle Bilal, Sheriff of Philadelphia; Regina Young, PA State Representative 20th District; Sharon Laverdure, Monroe County Commissioner; Bridget Malloy Kosierowski, PA State Representative 114th District; Rita Frealing, Mayor of Gettysburg; Mildred Tavarez, West York Borough Councilwoman; Dr. Noahleen Betts, Berks District School Board; Grace Crampsie Smith, Bethlehem City Councilwoman; Joyce Moore, Upper Milford Township Supervisor; Kristin Mullen, Upper Nazareth Township

Supervisor; Shamaine Daniels, Harrisburg City Councilwoman; Julia Trimarchi Cuccaro; Indiana School Board Vice President; Dr. Jeanne Smith, Hempfield Area School Board; Loretta Spielvogel, Lawrence County Commissioner; and Emily Kinkead, PA State Representative 20th District. Co-Chairs of the event were Susan Rutt and Deanne McNally. A fundraising auction to benefit PFDW's PAC was also a part of the event.

Pennsylvania is celebrating its election results. In 2022, five Democratic women were elected to Congress (four incumbents and one newly-elected member), as well as a Democratic Governor, Lieutenant Governor and United States Senator. The Democrats also won a majority in the State House of Representatives. Plans are already underway across the state for statewide and local elections in 2023.



Co-Chair Susan Rutt, Senator Judy Schwank, and PA Superior Court Judge Debbie Kunselman

PENNSYLVANIA UPDATES



PFDW's Outstanding Elected Democratic Women - class of 2022 with Keynote Speaker Senator Judy Schwank and OEDW Co-Chairs Deanne McNally and Susan Rutt.

LORI VARGO-HEFFNER ELECTED PRESIDENT

The Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women's Executive Board met in Harrisburg on November 19. A highlight of the meeting was a participatory board-building exercise, in which members identified goals and challenges. President Dianne Gregg announced at this meeting that she would be stepping down as President. Following the by-laws of the PFDW, a special meeting was called by 1st Vice President Lori Vargo-Heffner, at which time a special election was held to nominate and elect an Acting

President. Lori was duly nominated and elected to serve as President until the next election cycle. A resignation was accepted from Treasurer Roxanne Embick and Tracey Lynn Aeriola was elected as Interim Treasurer. Resignations were also accepted from the 3rd Vice President Sharon Neumane and the 5th Vice President Colleen Gerrity. The positions will be filled at a later time. Thanks are extended to the former officers for their hard work and dedication to the PFDW.

WASHINGTON UPDATES

by Carin Chase, President



In 2022, Washington State Democrats dominated all across the state; we were able to spur terrific Democratic turnout and help put our candidates on the path to victory. We flipped a Congressional Seat by electing **Marie Gluesenkamp Perez** to Congress District 3 and defending our incumbents up and down the ballot!



Our Chapters are active and engaged and eager to continue working with our elected officials with opportunities such as Washington State Women in Blue Lobby Day. Our 2023 Legislative Priorities focus on Universal Health Care, Reproductive Health Protections, Safe Nursing Standards, Strengthening Gun Restrictions, and more! Follow the link below to see what our local chapters are up to! Visit www.wsfdw.org.

2023 Legislative Priorities



Universal Health Care



Reproductive Health Protections



Safe Nursing Standards



Strengthening Gun Restrictions

**TO SEE WHAT OUR LOCAL
CHAPTERS ARE UP TO FOLLOW
THE LINKS BELOW!**

[Clark County Democratic Women](#)

[Cowlitz County Democratic
Women](#)

[Salish Sea Chapter \(South
Snohomish, North King\).](#)

[Thurston County Democratic
Women](#)

[Whatcom County Democratic
Women](#)

COMMUNICATOR SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Calling all State Presidents!

The Communicator is NFDW's electronic newsletter posted quarterly on the Federation website, www.nfdw.com.

State Presidents, Executive Board members, and Committee Chairs are strongly encouraged to submit articles for publication and share critical news with members.

Submissions may be articles and/or fliers and should:

- be well written and free of grammatical errors,
- include links that are active and not broken,
- include clear photographs (with captions), and
- be no more than 3 pages including pictures.

Submit to: **Beth Williams** at mbethwilliams@comcast.net.



**Next Deadline:
MARCH 28, 2023**

The National Federation of
Democratic Women
Awards and Internship Committee
announces the 2023



Profile **IN**
LEADERSHIP
AWARD

Nomination Deadline:
February 15, 2023

Visit www.nfdw.com

Gave
THE DATE

**Convention
Packet
coming
soon!**

**National Federation of Democratic Women
52nd Annual Convention**

June 8-10, 2023

**HILTON NEW ORLEANS RIVERSIDE
TWO POYDRAS ST, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130**



Shop 'til We Win!



NFDW Rectangular Scarf
\$20.00

Rectangular scarf measures 58" long and 10.5" wide. \$20 per scarf plus \$3.25 for transaction fee and shipping. If order several scarves at once, we will refund amount of shipping fee you paid that is more than it cost us.

Item Number: 64248-Large
Size: 19"W x 14"H x 6"Gusset
FIMprint Area : 9"Wx 6"H



DISCLAIMER:
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They may not accurately reflect logo size, shape, imprinting method, colors or finished product.

50th Anniversary Tote Bag
\$25.00

All NFDW members are invited to purchase a bag, but the quantity available is limited, so make your purchase ASAP. The cost of this special bag is \$23 and includes shipping. A \$2 online transaction fee is added to the price making the total \$25.

Looking for an opportunity to support the
National Federation of Democratic Women?
VISIT the NFDW's Website to shop your politics
<https://www.nfdw.com/shop>

Want to see more Democratic women elected to office?



Become a Sustaining Partner with the National Federation of Democratic Women

Your monthly recurring contribution will be used for

- ✓ GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING
- ✓ POLITICAL EDUCATION
- ✓ WORKSHOPS & SPEAKERS AT NATIONAL EVENTS
- ✓ SUSTAINABILITY OF ORGANIZATION
- ✓ INCREASED COMMUNICATION TO NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

\$5 * \$10 * \$20 * \$50

Click here to make a recurring donation. Any amount is appreciated!

<https://www.nfdw.com/sustaining-partner>



@NFDWvotes



@National Federation of Democratic Women