



Communicator

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Winter 2017

Letter from the President

inside...

President’s Letter1

Officers.2

Letters from Joanne3–5

2017 NFDW Convention . .6

Nominating Committee . . .7

Bylaws Amendments.7

Awards Committee . . .8–12

Call for Resolutions14

Women in Blue
Committee15

Pennsylvania.16

Midwest Region17

Texas18

New Jersey19

Clark County, WA10

Apollo 1 Tribute.20

Womens March21–26



Greetings everyone!
Happy New Year!

It’s been a busy few months for me and I think I’m finally, as so many of you are as well, coming out of my post-election depression and ready to look ahead. I was deeply inspired and motivated to be able to attend the Women’s March in Washington, DC on Saturday, January 21, 2017.

The **Women’s March** was an amazing display of respect, kindness, and peaceful demonstration in reaction to the newly elected President of the United States and the Republican-controlled Congress. The purpose of the March was to send a clear message that we are not willing to set the clock back 40 years on the gains that we, as Americans, have made with respect to women’s rights, minority rights, immigrant rights, LGBT rights, equal pay for equal work, healthcare for all, the funding of Planned Parenthood, and all issues that we as Americans care about. We need to remain attentive and well informed, question the “alternative facts”, and continue to fight for the gains we have made during these past many years, and be active participants in the democratic process, if we are to continue as a free, democratic country. I am hopeful that we can, and will be able to accomplish this, with a lot of hard work!

In the weeks following the election, I was inundated with emails and phone calls from women all over the country asking how they can get involved, how to organize an NFDW chapter in their state or local area, and how to get started to run for office or help someone else run a successful campaign for elective office at the local, state, and national level. I was impressed by the number of phone calls and emails asking for help. For those I was able to connect with, I was able to direct them to their state federations and/or regional directors. I hope that has been helpful. We need their energy, their enthusiasm, and their activism!

One suggestion I was able to share was to organize a “**Women in Blue**” Day in their own states. There was a lot of interest in the “Women in Blue” committee at last year’s annual NFDW Convention and I am hopeful

(continued on page 2)

President's Letter *continued*

that this might be one way to begin to organize and focus on the down ballot races in 2017 and 2018. To many, I have suggested organizing "Women in Blue" events at the state level during the month of March because March is designated as "Women's History Month." Organizing and participating in "Women in Blue" activities in each of the states will certainly raise our profile and generate some enthusiasm among members and soon to be members! It should also be a wakeup call to our legislative leaders that we are not going away, not willing to sit back, and will continue to encourage women to run for elective office. The work has just begun!

Lastly, **mark your calendars.** This year's annual convention will be held in **Atlanta, Georgia, June 8–11, 2017.** The Georgia Federation is working very hard to make sure this convention is a great success. It promises to be a wonderful time for all, so you will not want to miss it! The official "Call to Convention" will appear in the April issue of the Communicator but it is not too early to start making your plans to attend. Save the Date! Hope to see you there!

Democratically yours,
Joanne Sullivan
President, NFDW

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Maureen McKenna

Letters from Joanne Sullivan



National Federation of Democratic Women

NFDW.com

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Susannah French
Kentucky

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Mary "Cindy" Jenks
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3rd VICE PRESIDENT

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Kathleen Lawrence
Washington

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Dorothy Mrowka
Connecticut

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Joanne Sullivan
Connecticut

Virgie Rollins
Michigan

Pat Hobbs
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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Carye Blaney
West Virginia

PAST PRESIDENT

Janice Haynes Davis
District of Columbia

FOUNDER

Rilla Moran Woods
North Carolina

November 14, 2016

Dear Secretary Clinton,

Attached is a letter that went out to all my state presidents, members of the NFDW, and was posted on Facebook. In my position as President of the NFDW, I was so honored to have the opportunity to be a superdelegate at the Democratic National Convention and cast my vote for you.

Having raised three great children who are now young adults, my daughter, Kara age 30; and my sons Matthew, age 29, and Christopher, age 27, it was a very emotional moment when your daughter, Chelsea took to the stage to introduce you. As I sat in the Connecticut section and was listening to Chelsea, I received a 3-way text from my kids that said, "Mom, we are so proud of you and we feel the same way about you that Chelsea feels about her mom." Obviously, that brought me to tears!

On election night, both of my sons had found their way to election headquarters to be there with me. My daughter, who was not able to get there, sent me a text that said, "Thanks for being the most powerful woman in my life! Wishing I could be with you when the first woman president gets elected! Love you, Mom."

I wanted to share these stories with you because for so many of us, this election was very personal and there are many thousands of people throughout this country that want to say thank you for all you have done in public service throughout these past many years and for your steadfast composure and grace throughout this campaign.

We're all still with you!

Sincerely,

Joanne Sullivan,
President, NFDW

Representing Democratic Women Throughout America Since 1972



Letters from Joanne *continued*



National Federation of Democratic Women

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Pat Hobbs
California

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Carye Blaney
West Virginia

PAST PRESIDENT

Janice Haynes Davis
District of Columbia

FOUNDER

Rilla Moran Woods
North Carolina

November 10, 2016

To all my Federation Sisters and supporters of democracy,

After all the hard work that you and so many others have put into the Presidential Election, the people have spoken and Donald Trump is now President-Elect of the United States of America. This has been an exhausting 18 months of an ugly campaign filled with bigotry, racism, crude language and insults for anyone who did not agree with him.

And yes, I am as devastated as all of you are, but this is the United States of America and it is time for all of us to stand together and give him a chance. Our democracy not only requires but demands the peaceful transfer of power. For 240 years we have respected this peaceful transfer of power and have proudly lived by this tradition and our values of decency, equal rights for all, dignity, and fairness to everyone.

As Hillary Clinton said in her very eloquent concession speech yesterday morning,

"this campaign was never about one person or even one election, it was about the country we love and about building an America that's hopeful, inclusive and big-hearted. Our constitutional democracy demands our participation, not just every four years but all the time."

And that means that we need to continue to fight for what we believe in to make this country stronger and defend the progress we have made for women's rights and equality. We need to continue the fight for equal rights, women's rights, equal pay for equal work, minority rights, religious rights, immigrant rights and the right for everyone to love and marry the person of his or her choice. We have come too far to stop our progress or go backwards now.

Over the past two days, I've been encouraged by the number of Democratic women who have reached out to me through email or by accessing the NFDW website asking how they can get involved to ensure that we do what we can to move this country forward and not remain in a society of hate, racism, bigotry, and insults. We need to roll up our sleeves and begin the hard work of getting more people involved, encouraging younger women to get involved in the political process at the local and statewide levels, encouraging more women to run for office, and find ways to retain the membership that we have without getting discouraged.

Hillary Clinton has spent her entire life fighting for all of us, fighting for women and children, fighting for our families, and fighting for what she, and all of us believe in. She has been a champion for all of us and now it's our turn to move

Representing Democratic Women Throughout America Since 1972



(continued on page 5)

Letters from Joanne *continued*

forward with dignity and grace and ***“never stop believing that fighting for what's right is worth it.”*** She has been our champion and handled this entire campaign with grace, composure, and dignity, in spite of the ugly rhetoric that has plagued all of us for these past many months. Now, it's our turn to thank her for her years of public service and do what we can to move this country forward.

It has only been 96 years since women gained the right to vote and no, we still have not shattered that glass ceiling, which so many of us had hoped we would. I truly believed that this was “our time” and that we would finally have elected the first woman president. I was so encouraged by the many women (and men) who stopped by the grave of Susan B. Anthony to leave their “I voted today” stickers. It made me proud to be an American and hopeful about the future of this great country.

What made me even more proud was the post that my own daughter, a classroom teacher, who as so many were, was worried about what she would tell her second grade students the next morning. On her Facebook page, and in her words: ***“I was pleasantly surprised by the level of posts, not about hate or anger, but about rising above, standing together, taking action, loving our neighbors of all races, sexualities, religions, genders, and colors, and remaining hopeful. The only way for things to get better is to take a stand. I was truly discouraged, but seeing all these positive posts restores my faith in humanity and in our country. If anything, I'm seeing more of how the future lies in our hands, especially the people of my generation and younger”.***

So for all of our daughters (and sons), a huge “Thank You” to Hillary Clinton for telling all of us that ***“our voices do need to be heard and we cannot give up the fight. And -- and to all the little girls, never doubt that you are valuable and powerful and deserving of every chance and opportunity in the world to pursue and achieve your own dreams.”***

So maybe the day will come ***“and sooner than we think right now”*** for someone to shatter that glass ceiling. Hopefully we will see it in our lifetimes and just maybe, if we all stand together, fight for what we believe in, and not give up, it might just happen in 2020 on the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote. Let's get out there, stay strong, and keep fighting for what we believe in and what has always made our country so great.

Democratically yours and with great faith in our country and democracy,



Joanne Sullivan, President
National Federation of Democratic Women

2017 NFDW Convention



YOU'RE INVITED

The Women of Georgia Federation of Democratic Women (GFDW) extend a warm welcome to you to join them in Atlanta, Georgia this year as we host the Annual Convention for the National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW). You will be graced with Southern hospitality, warm summer days, and cool evening breezes.

You will be staying at the beautiful Hyatt Regency right on Peachtree St. in the downtown area. You are within walking distance of the Olympic Park and Ferris Wheel, the Center for Civil and Human Rights, the Aquarium, and the Coca Cola Museum. Just a little further away is Sweet Auburn, Ebenezer Baptist Church, and the MLK Center. A short Uber drive away is the Beltline and the now famous Ponce City Market. If you arrive on Thursday, June 7 you will have time to visit some of these places and also enjoy some of our fabulous restaurants. There will also be a 4 hour Civil Rights tour available on that day to sign up for if you are so inclined. Information on all the other sites around Atlanta will also be available.

The convention begins with the opening session on Friday, June 8, followed by 4 work sessions which will deal with topics on Young Women in Politics, Bullying in schools and businesses, and Women's Rights. That evening we will take a short trip to the Carter Center, President Jimmy Carters Presidential Library, for our welcome reception where Stacey Abrams, Democratic Minority Caucus chair will give greetings.

Atlanta is rich with history, education and business and political firsts. Join us for good dining, good tours, and good shopping! We look forward to seeing you in Atlanta!

Date:

Wednesday, June 8th – Sunday, June 11th

Location: Hyatt Regency Hotel

265 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 30303

Additional details/package information forthcoming.

Nominating Committee

Your Nominating Committee for 2016–2017 has been charged with compiling a list of names of proposed officers for the Federation. We are asking for your nominations to be sent by March 1, 2017.

Nominating Process NFDW Officers

- Officers must be from states holding full membership
- 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 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 her state Federation Executive Board.
- Submission of a black and white photo
- 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 nor more than one (1) from the same state.

Complete by-laws can be located on our web site www.nfdw.com.

Please send your nominations to me at 26409 Misty Ridge Place, Santa Clarita, CA 91387.

Democratically yours,

Pat Hobbs, Committee Chair
pattyhobbs@aol.com

Call for Amendments to the Bylaws

The call for Bylaw Amendments shall be issued at convention and mailed within the quarter thereafter. 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.

Awards



Peggy Stepp, Chair
NFDW Awards Committee
2739 South Claremont Avenue
Springfield, MO. 65804
417-883-6727 cell: 417-880-6073

January 17, 2017

Dear State Presidents and Regional Director,

The NFDW Convention of 2017 will be on us before we know it. The Awards Committee wants you to start thinking about who would be deserving nominees from your home state. We are contacting you for nominees for consideration for: ***Outstanding NFDW Member of the Year, Outstanding Elected Democratic Woman Holding Public Office and the NFDW Humanitarian Award.***

These awards are presented annually during our NFDW Convention. The awards started with our NFDW founder, Rilla Moran Woods and others informally in 1986. In 1987, the awards were drafted, formalized with criteria and sent to NFDW members. States were encouraged to recognize Outstanding Democrats in these categories and forward the choices as a nominee for consideration to the Awards Committee Chair. The Awards Committee then presents the winners during the Awards Luncheon at the NFDW Convention.

It is the Committee's hope this year as it has been in the past, that you will encourage your members to participate in this process. Below are the guidelines for selection.

GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR NOMINATIONS AND SELECTION

1. In submitting the supporting information for a nominee, follow the criteria which is the basis for evaluating nominees for the Awards.
2. Present supportive material as numbered exhibits with the letter of nomination.
3. Nominations are to be submitted by State Federations, or where the entire state is not federated by a member club. The nominee need not be a resident of the state submitting the nomination.
4. The nominee must be present at the National Convention to receive the award, unless some unforeseen event occurs to prevent attendance.
5. Organizations are requested to limit nominations to one per category.

(continued on page 5)

Awards *continued*

PLEASE SUBMIT INFORMATION AND LETTERS BY EMAIL TO THE AWARDS CHAIR AT: pstepp48@gmail.com

OUTSTANDING NFDW MEMBER OF THE YEAR

1. Current active member of the NFDW who personifies NFDW objectives (i.e., Article II, Bylaws: The objective of the NFDW 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)
2. Contribution by the nominee to the growth, development and promotion of NFDW.
3. National scope and stature of the nominee.
4. Personal political involvement by the nominee.

OUTSTANDING ELECTED DEMOCRATIC WOMAN HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE

1. Current elected Democratic office holder of national, regional, state or local scope.
2. Demonstrated support of NFDW by nominee.
3. Significant contribution to the Democratic Party and it's principles by the nominee.
4. Demonstrated commitment by the nominee to the success of other Democratic women in the Party organization and for elective office.

NFDW HUMANITARIAN AWARD

1. Significant contribution to the cause of human and/or civil rights.
2. Demonstrated support of the NFDW.
3. Nominee possesses leadership qualities.
4. Nominee's success in achieving human and /or civil rights. (The nominee may be male or female but must meet the criteria.)

DEADLINE FOR THE NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 1, 2017 TO BE CONSIDERED.

Send nominations via email to:

Peggy Stepp at pstepp48@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you at the NFDW Convention in South Carolina.

Sincerely,



Peggy Stepp



NFDW Internship Application 2017

Please fill out the following:

Political campaigns in which you have participated (include dates)

Activities, duties or positions you have been engaged in or performed for the Democratic Party at any level.

Extracurricular:

NFDW INTERNSHIP APPLICATION

You may submit additional sheets should any space provided be inadequate for your response. You may also submit letters of recommendation from Democratic officeholders or Party leaders.

Please include an essay of not less than 200 words describing your political and career aspirations and why the NFDW Founders' Internship would help you achieve your goals.

Forward your application to your Federation State President or Chair (all of these are listed on our website www.nfdw.com) Your Federation President/Chair will provide an endorsement letter and forward your application to:

Peggy Stepp, Chair

NFDW Awards Committee

Via email at pstepp48@gmail.com

Any questions call me at 417-883-672 or call 417-880-6073

The deadline for the application to be received is by May 1, 2017. Applications after that date will not be considered.

**EVALUATION OF NOMINEE FOR
NFDW HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2017**

NAME OF NOMINEE _____ NOMINATING STATE _____

CRITERIA **EVALUATION**

- Significant contribution to the cause of human and/or civil rights. **(Possible points 35)** _____
- Demonstrated support of the NFDW. **(Possible points 20)** _____
- Nominee possesses leadership qualities. **(Possible points 20)** _____
- Nominee's success in achieving human and/or civil rights. **(Possible points 25)** _____

TOTAL _____

**Evaluation Of Nominees For
Outstanding NFDW Member of the Year 2017**

NAME OF NOMINEE _____ NOMINATING STATE _____

CRITERIA **EVALUATION**

- Current active member of NFDW who personifies NFDW's objectives. **(Possible 35 points)** _____
- Contributed to the Growth, Development and Promotion of the NFDW. **(Possible 20 points)** _____
- Has National scope and stature. **(Possible 20 points)** _____
- Demonstrated individual political involvement. **(Possible 25 points)** _____

TOTAL _____

**EVALUATION FOR THE NFDW
RILLA MORAN WOODS INTERNSHIP AWARD 2017**

Name _____ Sponsoring Club _____
 Last First MI
 Street Address _____ City & State _____
 Judge's Name _____ City & State _____

Rank each criterion based on data contained in application, essay and recommendations along a continuum of 0-4. If 0=no evidence to support; 1=little evidence to support; 2=reasonable to support; 3=conclusive evidence to support and 4=much evidence to support. Upon completion, tally score and record at bottom of form.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	4
The applicant has demonstrated her early and continued interest in politics and civic affairs.					
The applicant has demonstrated her past and present interest and commitment in and to the Democratic Party					
The applicant has demonstrated exceptional academic ability over a number of years.					
The applicant has led a well rounded and people involved life.					
The applicant has shown her involvement with Party office holders and leaders.					
The applicant has demonstrated her ability to express her ideas fluently and cogently.					
The applicant has shown that the RMW Internship will further her political/career goals.					
The applicant shows promise of becoming a future leader in the Democratic Party.					
TOTAL IN EACH COLUMN					

Number of one's x 1 = _____
 Number of two's x 2 = _____
 Number of three's x 3 = _____
 Number of four's x 4 = _____

GRAND SCORE _____

FYI: These are prototypes of the evaluation sheets we use, so you can plan how best to present your nominees.

GOOD LUCK! We hope to be "swamped" with nominees for these NFDW awards!

Call for Resolutions

TIME IS SHORT for CLUBS to SUBMIT RESOLUTIONS DUE BY MAY 1, 2017

Resolutions must be submitted to the Chair of the Resolutions Committee one (1) month prior to the Annual Meeting. The Resolutions Committee shall present all resolutions to the Annual Meeting together with Committee recommendations. Resolutions signed by at least (10) delegates representing at least (5) states may be received from the floor.



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 in the statement beginning with “Resolved.”

The resolve should require action 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.

If you have any questions, please call Judy Villa at (203) 272-4672 (H) or Joanne Sullivan, President, at (860) 528-5818 (H) or (860) 402-1076 (C).

**Resolutions should be sent electronically to this email address:
jvilla1@cox.net.**

Please submit resolutions as an electronic document that can be edited easily such as in Word, NOT a pdf.

Congratulations Darcy



NFDW Recording Secretary Darcy Long-Curtiss is sworn in on The Dalles, Oregon City Council. She is the first woman ever elected to The Dalles council.

Women In Blue Committee

Women in Blue is a proud tradition of our federated clubs when we annually choose one day to speak with our legislators about issues that affect our communities which are of particular relevance to women and families.

This year, the Women in Blue Committee is organizing A “Women in Blue Telling Our Story” calendar which will have listed on it how each federated state’s “Women in Blue Lobby Day” was executed inclusive of the date of lobbying, theme, issue and activity. Telling each other’s story in a narrative format will allow us to learn from each other and continue to grow as we affirm who we are through our experiences and interests. The information will be listed on the Calendars in March and May.

“Telling our Story” information for states that have already hosted their DAY is requested by February 21st to be listed on the March Calendar. States that have not hosted their DAY are requested to host their DAY in March, which is Women’s History Month, or April.

More than ever before in the history of our country we need to organize and work together. Under the current administration there is so much at stake as it relates to our rights as women and our own basic human rights. Our involvement is critical and our voices must be heard. We need to speak up as often as we can and as loud as we can.

We have a dedicated list of members who will be reaching out to you to help as needed. For additional assistance, please also refer to the Women in Blue Advocacy Guide found on our website, nfdw.com as well as other useful information to help you with your planning.

Working together we will make a difference.

Democratically yours,

Estell Mathis-Lloyd
On behalf of the Women in Blue Committee
(202) 723-2926 (h/o) (202) 297-2381 (cell)
emlloyd@comcast.net

Past-President Caroline Wilkins

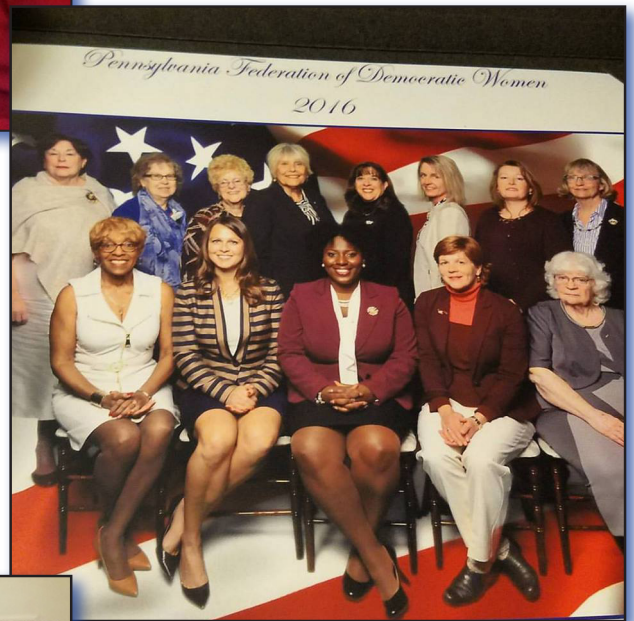


Caroline Wilkins, past NFDW President, past Oregon State President and now on the nominating committee. Pictured with her husband, Bill.

Pennsylvania Federation

The Annual Outstanding Elected Democratic Women Campaign Brunch, “Daughter’s Know Your Power,” held on November 13, 2017 was the event of the year.

Highlighting some of our states ELECTED Democratic Women and starring our own Susan Rutt who received our federation 1st “Pioneer Award.” It was good having members Hazel Thomas Linda Jefferson, Gwen, Pat and the ladies that accompanied them from the DC Federation to witness Susan receive her much deserved award.



2016 Honorees



Midwest Region Meets in Oklahoma

Forty-plus attendees from seven states gathered November 19, 2016 in Oklahoma City at the Embassy Suites Hotel for a fantastic program including workshops, food, and fun. Originally planned as a celebration, we mourned our losses and celebrated a few victories together.

Our NFDW national president Joanne Sullivan from Connecticut welcomed the attendees, followed by our newly elected state representative, Mickey Dollens, former teacher, that won a very hard fought election in Oklahoma City.

After a get acquainted activity, we heard from Christina Owens, co-founder of *Yes All Daughters* from Norman, OK. Oklahoma President Debbie Hogue-Downey greeted the gathering before lunch. After lunch we heard from State Senator Kay Floyd about election results and reports from the Hillary campaign.

A panel discussion was held by Freedom Oklahoma Ex. Director Troy Stevenson, Women's Coalition Ex. Director, Danielle Ezell, and Oklahoma Organizer for Planned Parenthood, Aaron Wilder. Attendees had many questions and enjoyed hearing from the other states about what is happening there also.

After a short Midwest Regional meeting conducted by director Debi Thompson, Oklahoma we had a break before the managers reception in the atrium. Dinner speaker was Oklahoma County Commissioner Willa Johnson, whose campaign slogan is always, "Where there is a Willa, there is a Way!"

Nathaniel Batchelder, Director of Peace House did a closing song where we all joined in and held hands in a circle.

Many came the afternoon before and we met to eat together and commiserate about how each of our states did in the election. We went around the circle and each told our stories from our home states. Also attending were NFDW officers, Virgie Rollins, DNC member from Michigan and 3rd Vice President, Judy Baker, from Texas. Others were from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Connecticut, and Oklahoma.

Debi Thompson

Midwest Regional Director, NFDW from Oklahoma



*Seated: Glenda Herndon, Charlotte Young, Margaret Taylor
Standing: Marion Hill, Debbie Hogue-Downing, Modina Allen, Joanne Sullivan, Juana Meadows, Barbara Nicholson, and Debi Thompson*



Joanne Sullivan, Jana Harkins, Willa Johnson, unknown, Debbie Hogue-Downing



*Standing: Christie Breedlove, Debi Thompson, Frances Jackson, Joanne Sullivan
Seated: Charlotte Young, Marge Zakora-Vaugh, Barbara Nicholson, Virgie Rollins, Glenda Herndon, Debbie Hogue-Downing, Marion Hill, Ardena Matlack and Margaret Taylor*



Texas Democratic Women

Happy New Year! This is my final message as President of TDW, and I am honored beyond measure to have served. I am excited to see what 2017 holds for TDW as I transition to Immediate Past President. Our incoming President, Carol Jablonski, has planned a wonderful convention to celebrate TDW's 30th anniversary. We're getting the details together for Blue Ribbon Lobby Day, and we're keeping close watch on the Texas Legislature's antics for the 85th Regular Session. It's going to be a doozy.

I want to thank this year's Executive Board for their support and hard work this year. Immediate Past President, Laura Allen has been a terrific source of energy when I ran out of my own. President-Elect Carol Jablonski has been making tremendous headway in planning the annual convention—a full-time job in its own right. Vice President Leah Payne has pioneered TDW webinars, a service sorely needed in an ever-increasingly digital age. Treasurer Sue Barrick has been a careful steward of TDW's finances and instrumental in maintaining our databases. Secretary Cindy James has taken fastidious notes for our meetings, and kept us from going too far down the rabbit hole when we get off topic. At-Large Board Member Mary Ho has been an amazing creative resource, whether taking photos during convention and caucuses, or designing the centerpieces for the Ladybird Breakfast. At-Large Board Member Mary Terry has been a rock of calm and a huge source of humor when I needed it most. At-Large Board Member Maria Regalado has been a wonderful infusion of energy and a proud voice for the Rio Grande Valley on the board. And finally, Rosalie Weisfeld has served as my Parliamentarian—an incredibly important and all-too-often unsung hero role. Thank you all so much for working with me in a tumultuous year of politics.

To the rest of the membership: Stay Involved! We have plenty of ways to make progress in Texas. There are Municipal races for some of you in May, and the Constitutional Amendment election in November to work for. Primary 2018 season will be upon us before you know it, and now is the time to recruit new TDW members and candidates for office! When women run, and women vote, women win!

I hope to see you all at the Convention in February, and again for Blue Ribbon Lobby Day. If you're participating in any of the Women's Marches on (Austin/Dallas/Washington DC, etc) January 21st, please be sure to send photos and captions to vicepresident@tdw.org so that we can include them in upcoming newsletters.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure serving as your President. Thank you again for all you do as we move forward together, undaunted and more determined than ever.

Susan Shelton
President, TDW

New Jersey Federation of Democratic Women

The swearing in ceremony was a great way to bring our New Jersey Federation of Democratic Women together and not only kick off the new year with our new executive board, but to discuss current events and the national political climate with each other and to appreciate our sisterhood and solidarity.

The New Jersey Federation of Democratic Woman and its 2017 executive board are so honored to represent and help lead the fight against oppression and discrimination, and represent women and their interests in the face of the incoming administration. We are looking forward to working together within New Jersey and nationally to advance women in politics through young women's scholarship opportunities and through assisting and holding local trainings to prepare young women for leadership. We will also be hosting two fundraisers this year in New Jersey to help further and support our efforts.



The 2017 New Jersey Federation of Democratic Women executive sworn in by Amy Papi- board right to left: President Sylvia Vason, 1st Vice President Andrea Mastro, 2nd Vice President Dolores Williams, Treasurer Viola Scott, Recording Secretary Mary Forbes; not pictured: Corresponding Secretary Margaret Martin



Part of the crowd at the 2017 New Jersey Women's March, located in Mercer County and featuring several female leaders in New Jersey politics and government, as well as from the New Jersey Federation of Democratic Women, including Congresswoman Bonnie Watson-Coleman

The Mercer County hosted the location for the New Jersey Women's March and the local county chapter of the New Jersey Federation of Democratic Women held a welcome breakfast for interested march participants. Several local female leaders, and members of the NJ Federation of Democratic Women, showed up to socialize and share in each other's company in order to energize before the march.

Sylvia Vason
New Jersey FDW



Members of the the New Jersey Federation of Democratic Woman, various chapters, at a pre-Women's March breakfast hosted by the Mercer County Chapter



The 2016 Holiday Celebration featuring members and leaders Amy, Marge, and Sylvia

Clark County Democratic Women, Washington

On December 17, 2016, the Clark County Democratic Women held its biennial reorganization meeting with record attendance of more than 120 people. The Clark County Democratic Women is now the largest chapter of Democratic Women in Washington State.

The president and vice president seats on the Executive Board were contested races between four very strong, qualified women. In a show of moving solidarity, the two candidates for secretary agreed to share the position as co-secretaries, and in the treasurer's race, one candidate conceded her candidacy in a vote of confidence for the other. Katie Archer Jolma was elected President. She is a local attorney with expertise in public affairs, political consulting, and campaign management. Melissa Valo was elected Vice President. Melissa owns a local graphic design business, which specializes in design work for Democratic candidate campaigns and non-profits. The two Co-Secretaries are Heather Beaupre Lindberg and Jennifer Griffin. Heather is a substitute teacher and an active parent volunteer. Jennifer Griffin specializes in the area of organizational psychology for an international consumer-based spending company and authors a blog focused on local politics. Terah Pitchford was elected Treasurer. Terah works for a local solar-panel manufacturer and is an experienced campaign treasurer.

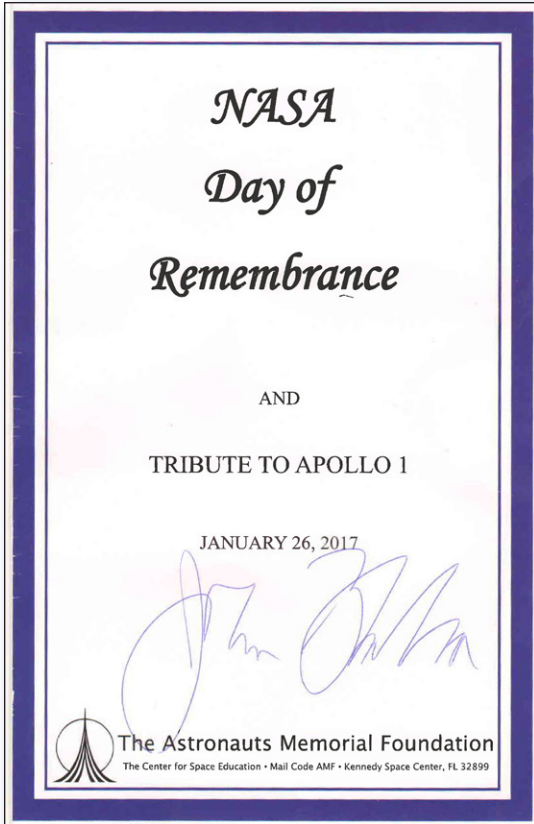


Katie L. Archer
CCDW President

Pictured from left to right are: Tara Pitchford (Treasurer), Melissa Valo (Vice President), Donna McLain (WSFDW President), Heather Lindberg (Co-Secretary) & Katie Archer (President). Not pictured - Jennifer Griffin (Co-Secretary).



Apollo 1 Tribute, January 26, 2017



Attended by Mary Jenks, NFDW member

NASA Day of Remembrance

JANUARY 26, 2017 - 10:00 A.M.

**Kennedy Space Center • The Astronauts Memorial Foundation
Space Mirror Memorial**

Welcome
Thad Altman
President and CEO, The Astronauts Memorial Foundation

Presentation of Colors
Viera High School Army JROTC Color Guard

National Anthem
DeLaura Middle School Vocal Ensemble

Invocation
Charlie Duke (Brig. Gen., USAF, Ret.)
Apollo Astronaut

Apollo 1 Tribute Video Presentation

Robert Lightfoot
Acting Administrator, NASA Headquarters

Michael Collins (Maj. Gen., USAF, Ret.)
Apollo Astronaut

Sheryl Chaffee
Daughter of Roger Chaffee

John Tribe
Apollo 1 Launch Team Member

Special Performance
Brandon Heath
Vocalist

Robert Cabana (Colonel, USMC, Ret.)
*Director, NASA Kennedy Space Center
Former Space Shuttle Commander*

Reading of the Names of Our Fallen Astronauts
Charlie Duke (Brig. Gen., USAF, Ret.)

Processional and Wreath Laying
Sheryl Chaffee, daughter of Roger Chaffee
Bonnie White Baer, daughter of Ed White, II
Lowell Grissom, brother of Virgil "Gus" Grissom

DCFDW Participates in the Women's March on DC

Members of the DC Federation of Democratic Women joined with women, men, children and community leaders from across the country for the historic Women's March on Washington to demand equal treatment, accountability and civil rights for all Americans. Our members were among the millions who marched nationwide on January 21, 2017 to deliver the message that women's rights are human rights and to raise their voices against the forces of racism, bigotry, misogyny, hatred and divisiveness in the new administration.

“What a powerful connection when women come together” It was an honor and a privilege to rally with so many women, men and children committed to making their voices heard in defense of justice, equity and equal protection under the law.” –Eugenia McKinney



Eugenia McKinney and friends from Pennsylvania



“The Women's March, January 21, 2017 on Washington was empowering for a diverse number of demographic groups and it spoke volumes to the POWER we have when we come together for a common cause.”

– LaTonya Kyler

“The march provided us with the opportunity to join with other women from across the country who are equally concerned about the Trump agenda. In addition to our Mayor, who was invited to speak at the march (and is a MWDC member), we were well represented at the March.”

– MDWC President, Winifred Carson Smith, Esq.



Hazel Thomas
DCFDW President

Women's Day Marches Across the Country

NMFDW representing women in marches throughout New Mexico.



New Mexico Federation of Democratic Women - The Roundhouse - Santa Fe, NM. Left to right: Kooch Jacobus, Michael Melendez, Pam Cordova, Rhonda Law, Lydia Zazueta - proudly carry our banner.



Mary Helen Garcia, Federation of Democratic Women Dona Ana County in Las Cruces, NM

NEW MEXICO



Peggy McLoughlin and Sharon Cordova - Valencia County Federation of Democratic Women in Albuquerque, NM at the Civic Plaza

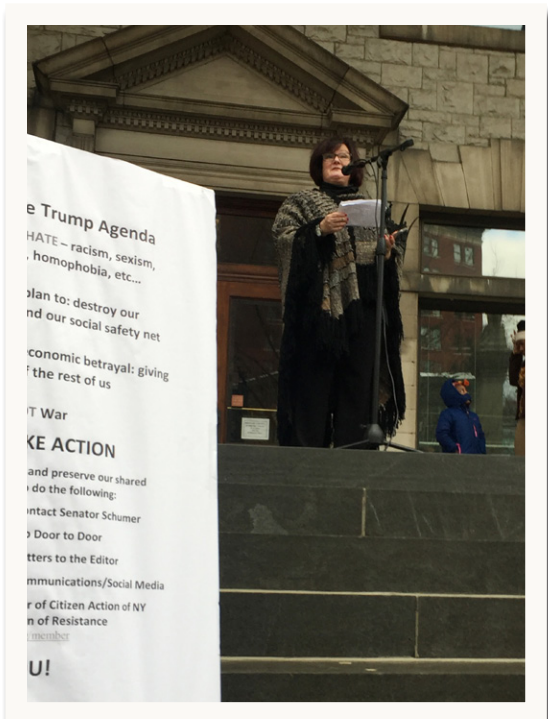


Theresa Trujique, Sandoval County Federation of Democratic Women, organized charter buses for 200 New Mexico Women to march in Washington DC. Holding our flag is Deb Halaand, Chairwoman Democratic Party New Mexico.

LOS ANGELES



After having felt disempowered and disrespected since election day, over 750,000 Angelinos joined together in peaceful, but angry protest against Trumpubcan erosion of our civil rights and liberties. We can overcome if we take today's energy and focus it on ousting the Trumpubcans from power in DC and state capitols throughout the nation.



Bridget Callaghan-Kane, President DWBC, addresses the crowd at the Binghamton, NY Women's March, January 21, 2017.

Nancy Guy, Corresponding Secretary DWBC, and Carol Howell, Treasurer DWBC, enjoy the lovely day before the Binghamton, NY Women's March, co-sponsored by the DWBC.

BINGHAMTON, NY



A crowd of over 3,000 assemble at the Broome County Courthouse to listen to the inspiring speakers.



ATLANTA, GEORGIA





Donna McLain, Washington State Federation of Democratic Women President, on left.



LONGVIEW, WA



Sherry Davis, President of Cowlitz County Democratic Women with her husband.



Megan Richie, Donna McLain & Sherry Davis



VOLUSIA & MANATEE, FLORIDA

Rachel Young led marchers holding our group sign high.



CONNECTICUT MARCHERS IN DC



NEW YORK STATE

