



THE COMMUNICATOR

National Federation of Democratic Women

www.nfdw.com

April 2022 Edition

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President's Message

As we are preparing for NFDW's national convention, this is a great time to reflect on the many transformational changes that President Joe Biden's administration has delivered for our country. While the Biden agenda is improving Americans' lives, he has risen in stature for his leadership of NATO and the world in fighting the hideous invasion of Ukraine that signals a growing threat to democracy across the continents.

In the midst of a global pandemic, the American Relief Act kept millions of Americans from being homeless and hungry. The Child Tax Credit moved millions of children out of poverty. The historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill is not only repairing the hundreds of bridges that are in need of structural improvements, but also thousands of jobs are being created in the process. In fact, the Biden Administration has set an all-time jobs growth record by adding

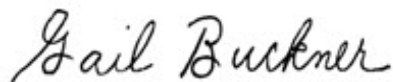
6.6 million jobs throughout our nation. This is record-setting for a president in the first year in office.

According to the White House, unemployment has fallen from 6.2% to 3.8%, and unemployment is at the lowest level since 1968. When President Biden took office, 18 million individuals were receiving unemployment checks. "Today, those receiving unemployment benefits have dropped to 2 million. Nearly 5 million citizens have newly gained health insurance." There are so many more notable accomplishments, including a stronger commitment to providing clean drinking water for everyone.

Of great significance in the ongoing push for gender and racial equality, President Biden's Supreme Court nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson will forever stand as one of the most historic accomplishments of his administration. Judge Brown Jackson is clearly the most qualified individual to serve on the highest court in the land. Her experience triples that of several others at the time of their nomination, and she clearly possesses a deep emotional intelligence that several prior nominees did not demonstrate in their confirmation hearings.

While Judge Brown Jackson's record shows that she is extremely qualified for the position, the main trait that resonates is how humble she is. She would never try to intimidate someone who asks a simple question or a disingenuous question, nor would she talk down to any person. Her emotional intellect and empathy would never lead her there. At a time when this country is so divided, it is so refreshing that soon-to-be Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson will be on the bench judging cases fairly and according to the law. Let's learn from this phenomenal woman and emulate her.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Buckner".

Gail Buckner

912-445-0230

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Joanne Sullivan, Past President



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN 51st ANNUAL CONVENTION

Greetings Federation Members!

On behalf of the 2022 National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) Convention Committee, we are pleased to announce that registration for the Virtual 2022 NFDW 51st Convention is now open!

The theme for 2022 is Good Trouble... Necessary Trouble. Our Virtual Convention will be hosted on Zoom. Details to follow...

State Federations are encouraged to register at the early bird rate. Convention Sponsorships are also encouraged!

[**CLICK HERE FOR CONVENTION PACKET**](#)

2022 NFDW Annual Convention Sponsorships

The National Federation of Democratic Women uplifts the morals and integrity of Democratic values. We are seeking your support to help further the incredibly important work our Federation fulfills through our activism, issue and legislative discussions, and advocacy for policy that advances Democratic ideals and encourages full participation of women in every aspect of government and policymaking.

Sponsorship Levels are as follows:

Presenting Sponsor: An ad will be placed on the screen. The sponsor may make a one - 2-minute comments in person or send a video. The name and logo will be sent via email to our overall "Big List" of email addresses.

Cost: \$5000 (By Mail) or \$5331.32 (Online)

Paving the Way: An ad will be placed on the screen. The sponsor may send a 1-minute video that will be aired in the opening comments of the convention. The name and logo will be sent via email to our overall "Big List" of email addresses.

Cost: \$2022 (By Mail) or \$2156.29 (Online)

Good Troublemakers: Will be recognized during the convention via a PowerPoint/slide and will be recognized in an email to NFDW's "Big List" of email addresses. Also, a gift of one Build Back Better Tote Bag and one NFDW scarf. Quantities are limited on both items.

Cost: \$500 (By Mail) or \$533.59 (Online)

Necessary Troublemakers: Will be recognized during the convention via a PowerPoint/slide and will be recognized in an email to NFDW's "Big List" of email addresses. Also, a gift of one Build Back Better Tote Bag and one NFDW Scarf. Quantities are limited on both items.

Cost: \$250 (By Mail) or \$265.05 (Online)

United & Strong: Will be recognized during the convention via PowerPoint/slide and will be recognized in an email to NFDW's "Big List" of email addresses.

Cost: \$100 (By Mail) or \$106.20 (Online)

To Pay Online, please go to NFDW.COM and click on NFDW Convention. A transaction fee is added to the fee amount for online payments. To pay by check, make out check to NFDW.

Mail to: Dorinda White, NFDW Treasurer 996 Maine Ave. SW #436 Washington DC 20024 202-491-3033 dorindaw@gmail.com



National Federation of Democratic Women 51st Annual Meeting

Tentative Agenda

Virtual June 10 – 11, 2022

"Time for Good Trouble, Necessary Trouble"

Agenda Friday, June 10, 2022

Business Meeting 11 AM ET

Call to Order Gail Buckner

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem

Inspiration Honoring Congressman John Lewis

"Good Trouble, Necessary Trouble"

11:25 AM Roll Call of Executive Board

Roll Call of States

Credentials

2022 Annual Meeting Rules

Minutes of 2021 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report

11:50 AM Reports:

President's Report

Elected Officer Reports

Regional Directors Reports

DNC Representatives Reports

11:55 AM Standing Committee Reports

Audit Roxanna Murray

Legislative

Finance

History

Special Committees:

Growth and Development

Political Education

Women in Blue

12:00 PM Speaker President Biden's 4 Priorities

12:30 PM Break for 6 minutes

12:36 PM Speakers Equal Pay

12:48 PM Speakers Hearings for Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson

01:00 PM Speakers Gerrymandering

01:30 PM State Videos

02:00PM Announcements & Adjourn

02:10 PM PAC Meeting

03:30 PM Regional Meetings: Election of
Nominating Committee Members,
Discussions: Bylaws, Resolutions, and
Values Statement. Questions about any
these subjects must be emailed to the
committee chairs no later than 8 PM that
evening, June 10.

Agenda Saturday, June 11, 2022

Call to Order Gail Buckner

Pledge to the Flag

Inspiration Tribute to John Lewis

11:15 AM

Roll Call of NFDW Officers

Roll Call of States

Credentials Report

Convention Rules

11:30 AM Bylaws

12:00 PM Break 6 Minutes

12:06 PM Resolutions

12:36 PM Women in Elected Office

01 :00 PM Awards and Scholarships

01:35 PM 5 Minute Break

01:40 PM Speaker

01:55 PM New Business

Values Statement

Profile in Leadership Award

True Blue Award Certificates

1:58 PM Convention 2023

Announcements

Adjourn

DNC Winter Meeting

The Democratic National Committee's Winter Meeting took place March 10 – 11, 2022 in Washington, D.C. for its first in-person meeting in two years. The meeting was highlighted by visits from President Biden and Vice President Harris with an audience of over 1,000 national committee members, state party leaders, donors, press, and guests.

Black Caucus Chair, Virgie Rollins was reelected as Chair of the Black Caucus in a rousing, well attended caucus meeting with more than 100 participants. Congratulations, Virgie on a job well done! Senior advisor to President Biden & former Congressman Cedric Richmond gave remarks as well as Erin Wilson, Deputy Director of Political Strategy and outreach for the White House.

In the Friday meeting of the Women's Caucus, Joanne Sullivan was elected as one of three vice chairs under the chairmanship of returning chair, Lottie Shackelford. Congratulations, Joanne! NFDW is well represented on the DNC with these two leadership positions. Jen Psaki, Press Secretary to President Biden was the guest speaker at the Women's Caucus. This was a wonderful, energizing meeting for more than 100 participants.



A Historic Moment



Thank you, President Biden for the historic nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court.

Black women all over the country are in awe of the first ever nomination of a Black woman to the Supreme Court. Judge Jackson sat through 20 continuous hours of hearings marred by ugly, racist, sometimes vicious, and toxic questioning from Republicans. This was another example of how smart and qualified Black women are and often treated as second class citizens. We understand how it feels to be Black in a predominately white professional setting. Yet, she kept calm and answered every question with grace and dignity. She was amazing and persevered through it all.

Thank God that Senator Cory Booker spoke against the toxic masculinity to voice what many of us wanted to say. He reminded everyone that Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is more qualified than any member currently serving on the Supreme Court. He reminded us, as a community, that no matter how mean and disrespectful they were to her, they could not rob us of our pride, joy, and excitement that we feel in this historic moment. We know that she will be elevated to sit on the Supreme Court. We all will be excited to call her *Justice* Ketanji Brown Jackson.

Virgie M. Rollins
Chair DNC Black Caucus
Past President and DNC Rep NFDW

CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

TIME is running out!



RESOLUTIONS DUE BY May 1, 2022

Resolutions must be submitted to the Chair of the Resolutions Committee one (1) month prior to the Annual Meeting. Please submit resolutions directly to Kellie Green, Resolutions Chair @ kgreen921@gmail.com.

The Resolutions Committee shall present all resolutions to the Annual Meeting together with their recommendations. 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 Kellie Green @ 989-274-6042 or email @ kgreen921@gmail.com.

Resolutions should be sent electronically in Word Format directly to:

Kellie Green @ kgreen921@gmail.com

Deadline for submitting Resolutions is *May 1, 2022*.

Resolutions will not be accepted after this date.

NFDW STATE PRESIDENTS,



**TO RECOMMEND MEMBERS FROM YOUR STATE FOR INTERNSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS and
NFDW AWARDS!**

- *Rilla Moran Woods Internship
- *Outstanding NFDW Woman of the Year
- *Agnes Bird Internship
- *Outstanding Democratic Woman Office Holder of the Year
- *Emerge America Internship
- *NFDW Humanitarian Award

Information, instructions, and applications are available at www.nfdw.com. Scroll down to Internships and Awards.

The winners in each category will be asked to submit a two minute or less video about themselves.

The states will send one nomination for each award.

The State Federation's recommendation letter for the nominee will be limited to a two-page bio and may be accompanied by two significant letters of support from other elected officials or individuals.

DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS IS MAY 1, 2022

June Krise, Chair, NFDW Awards Committee

junekrise47@gmail.com

Highlights of What's Going on in the Regions?

NFDW MIDWEST REGION

Our states in the Midwest Region of the NFDW have been busy adapting to the pandemic restrictions and working to continue as we organize and function during these times while also preparing for this year's Election cycle. We have many new State Presidents and Executive Boards we are working with as well. We have started meeting monthly via Zoom to better acquaint all with our neighbors while we share knowledge and information while focusing on our needs. We also have a Bylaws training scheduled for our Midwest states with Dr. Corinne Anderson, NFDW Bylaws Chair, on March 31st.

While some of our states have already met for their annual conventions, we have a couple of others coming up. Ohio is meeting on April 22nd and 23rd in Loraine, Ohio. You can contact Edna Borders, President, at eborders333@att.net for more information. They have a full agenda with many special guests.

We also have the Missouri Federation preparing for their 90th Annual Missouri Federation of Women's Democratic Clubs State Convention to be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Jefferson City, June 3-5, 2022. For more information, Contact; Penny Adams, Registration Chair, 816-390-4412 or pennybadams@yahoo.com Angela McQuinn, President, 816-390-6818 or mfwdc1931@gmail.com. This convention is promising to be a very educational and entertaining while they conduct their state business.

Greetings from Michigan

Michigan Democratic Women are looking forward to their in person Legacy Luncheon. After 2 1/2 years Women across the state, women are getting so excited to finally have the chance to meet in person.

Chair, Clarice Squillace

Greetings from Oklahoma

The Oklahoma Federation of Democratic Women is holding their 2022 State Convention virtually on April 9th following a week of virtual trainings and events.

Chair, Sue Althouse

EASTERN REGION

Greetings from Connecticut

The Connecticut Federation of Democratic Women (CFDW) will host a special workshop in May to celebrate their 100-Year Anniversary. The Connecticut Federation is the oldest federation in the country, and was established in 1922, a year after the passage of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote.

Fannie Dixon Welch, our first president, set the standard in 1922 when she founded the Connecticut Federation of Democratic Women's Clubs. Her involvement with the Suffragette Movement that allowed women to have the "right to vote" was pivotal in making women keenly aware of their responsibility of understanding the workings of government, getting involved in their own political parties, and running for public office to "take their place side by side with men." The keynote speaker will be Connecticut's Secretary of State, Denise Merrill, who will speak on voting rights.

SOUTHERN REGION

Greetings from Mississippi

This August, Gertrude Guy Bridgeforth will complete 100 years of family devotion, social activism and bible study in Mississippi and Tennessee. Even now, at the age of 99, Gertrude still registers people to vote, asks for signatures on the Mississippi Early Voting Initiative petition, passes out sample ballots for every election and educates Mississippians on her living history in DeSoto County.

Gertrude remembers the great women of color like Fannie Lou Hamer and Ida B. Wells and their shared experiences such as fighting to vote, riding in the back of the bus and even walking because of a lack of transportation. Racism was used to justify why Gertrude was denied a public education as a child, had to use separate restrooms and drink from water fountains that were marked as colored, and even worse – she could not check a book out of the library because of her skin color.

Times were difficult for all who fought for justice in Mississippi which the Guy family did in Southaven.

Gertrude first organized voter registration meetings at the DeSoto Methodist Church with her father Frazier Guy Senior, which was the center of voter registration in DeSoto County at that time. The Guy family received 3 death threats because of their civil rights activities. In 1966, Gertrude supported the 220-mile, 19 day March against Fear with James Meredith from Memphis to Jackson MS and passed out food and water to those who marched, which resulted in 4,000 African Americans registering to vote in Mississippi.

In her 80's Gertrude was still participating in GOTV rallies and protests with on the square in Hernando. Gertrude was an invited guest to President Barack Obama's first State of the Union Address, and later we got to see her profile on Saturday Night Live who did a skit on Barack Obama's 1st State of the Union address.

It is with great pride that I present Gertrude Guy Bridgeforth who is a pioneer in DeSoto County registering and encouraging people to Vote.



Greetings from Florida

The Florida Federation began 2022 planning or participating in Martin Luther King Day community events around the state including breakfasts, rallies, food drives and parades. Statewide grassroots efforts led by or in consultation with the Grassroots committee included calls, letters and texting thousands of voters encouraging Vote by Mail sign up. The Legislative Committee tracked more than 1300 bills this session and called on members to make phone calls, write emails or text our state legislators advocating for or opposing various bills as they went through the legislative process. We had a difficult Legislative Session this year, and many activities were planned to oppose and educate Florida's constituents on the dangers of the 15-week Abortion Ban, Don't Say Gay Bill, Stop Woke Act. Members held sign waving events around the state, spoke out at various events and invited state legislators to speak on issues.

Our State Convention is April 28-May 1, 2022. All 13 Regions have assumed a role in the planning and execution of the event. Included in the weekend activities are a reception with Legislators and Members, Business Meetings, Speakers, a Gubernatorial Candidate Forum, 14 robust Workshop sessions and our Annual DWCF Awards Gala.



NFDW SCARVES

Here's a reminder that the "official" NFDW scarves are still available for sale. As more clubs begin to meet and more events are being held in person, this is a wonderful opportunity to show off our NFDW logo.

Scarves are a white background, with our logo repeated in blue. They are 58" long by 10.5" wide. They can be ordered by going to: www.nfdw.com. Cost is \$20.00, plus \$3.25 added for transaction fee and shipping. Wear yours proudly today!



Bylaws Recommendations:

The proposed Bylaws amendments with the Bylaws Committee's recommendation go out with the April Call to Convention with the following guidelines:

1. State Presidents are asked to meet with/contact their clubs, as they desire, to get input, questions, and votes to be prepared to meet with the Region
2. Regional Directors set a meeting with their state Presidents (May); have any needed discussion, write questions and forward to Bylaws Chair, as needed. Questions then are addressed prior to Convention (Bylaws Chair can be invited to those meetings) (Note: a vote tally sheet will go to the Directors in a few days).
3. During Convention, limited time mandates that when the Regions meet, they get roll call votes by states and that they are prepared to cast those votes during Convention.

Please see the attached recommendations from the Bylaws Committee.

Corinne W. Anderson
Bylaws Committee Chair

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD 2022 BYLAWS RECOMMENDATIONS](#)