



Communicator

www.nfdw.com

Fall 2013

Letter from the President

inside...

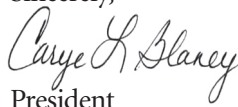
- Calendar of Events & Important Deadlines . . . 2
- 2014 National Convention . 3
- Bylaws Changes 3
- Awards & Internship Nominations 4
- Connecticut 4
- Southern Regional Meeting 5-8
- Pennsylvania 8
- Washington, DC 9
- Idaho 10
- Michigan 11
- Kansas 11
- New York 12
- South Carolina 13
- West Virginia 14



This issue is dedicated to our members all across this Country. From the West Coast to the East Coast our organization represents thousands of concerned Democratic women who are working to make a difference in our Nation. Since 1972 the National Federation of Democratic Women has been mobilizing, engaging and training women all across the United States. We have been a stable and consistent driving force behind hundreds of campaigns from City Hall to the White House. We have formed alliances with our National, State and Local Democratic Executive Committees, our Veterans and our Labor Unions, who represent coal miners, steel workers, auto workers, construction trades, communication workers, health care workers, teachers and service personnel; because we know that respecting the value of each organization is important to achieving a common goal. We have a long and successful history in the Democratic Party. Many of our State Federations and many of our local Democratic Women's organizations in our communities have been working for the Democratic Party for decades. Some states such as Kentucky and Tennessee boast clubs that have been organized and working for more than 85 years. Can you imagine the work, the commitment and the dedication it has taken to keep the fight going for that long?

I am proud and honored to have been elected by our membership to serve as your President through 2015. I hail from a long line of proud Democratic women. My Grandmother and Mother both were charter members of my hometown Democratic Women's Club. My sister and nieces are active. I recognize how many generations of women have been working in the Federation of Democratic Women at the local, state and national level. During the next two years we will broaden the awareness of our organization at the national level, showcase our value and importance as the women's voice in our Party and increase our membership even more through organizing more States, promoting our existing Federated States and encouraging more women to become involved and run for office. We will use everything at our disposal to improve our communication and to provide more programs and trainings. We will be asking for your help, wisdom, experience and direction as we set out to raise the money necessary to achieve these goals. There is a place for everyone to sit at our table. I encourage you to pull up a chair.

Best wishes to you and your families for a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

 President

Calendar of Events and Important Deadlines

If you have an upcoming event happening in your State and want it to be included, please email to caryeblaney@hotmail.com

January 2014

- 1 Contact list for each State Federation Board should be on file with NFDW. Should be in Excel format and include position, name, address, telephone and email address.
- 1 Reminder that membership dues are due to NFDW no later than April. Start now to make sure your State's membership dues are paid.

February 2014

- 1 Deadline for Bylaws Changes

March 2014

- 1 Send in registration, make travel arrangements and make hotel reservations for 2014 NFDW Convention in Kansas City, MO.
- 1 Beginning discussion of resolutions to be considered by NFDW at 2014 Convention. Must be submitted by May 2014 to Resolutions Committee.

April 2014

- 1 Deadline for nominations for Awards and Internship
- 1 Payment of membership dues for State Federations and individual clubs

May 2014

- 1 Resolutions deadline is 30 days prior to convention. Submit your resolutions now to Resolutions Committee to be considered at 2014 Convention

June 2014

- 11 NFDW Executive Board Meeting
- 12 Tours of Interest for surrounding Kansas City, MO area and PAC Reception
- 13-15 2014 NFDW Convention

NFDW Officers

PRESIDENT

Carye Blaney
P O Box 883
Morgantown, WV 26507
304-282-3005
caryeblaney@hotmail.com

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Nancee May
532 Polk St
Riverside, NJ 08075
856-461-7850
maywehelpyou@comcast.net

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Kellie Green
3431 Studor Rd
Saginaw, MI 48601
kgreen921@gmail.com

3rd VICE PRESIDENT

Barb Harris
1802 N 5th St.
Coeur D Alene, ID 83814
208-818-1076
bahcdsrn@roadrunner.com

4th VICE PRESIDENT

Joanne Sullivan
4 Gorman Pl
East Hartford, CT 06108
(home) 860-528-5818
sullivanjl1028@gmail.com

5th VICE PRESIDENT

Judy Baker
121 W Taylor
Sherman, TX 75092
575-640-7942
jlake2012@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Terri Holland
1100 Alvarado SE, Apt 112
Albuquerque, NM 87108
505-604-3589
terribk7@aol.com

RECORDING SECRETARY

Cindy Jenks
HC1 Box 693
Fairdealing, MO 63939
573-660-0261
marysjenks@yahoo.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Janice Haynes Davis
1420 Primrose Rd NW
Washington, DC 20012
202-882-4929
msjhd@aol.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Pat Hobbs
26409 Misty Ridge Pl
Canyon Country, CA 91387
661-424-9077
pattyhobbs@aol.com

APPOINTED OFFICERS

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Lena Bishop
505 Exchange Ave.
Endicott, NY 13760
(cell) 607-343-4351
lenabishop505@gmail.com

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

EASTERN

Susan Rutt
1852 S. Wood St.
Allentown, PA 18103
610-791-3497
susanrutt@aol.com

MIDWESTERN

Debi Thompson
Box 44
Carney, OK 74832
405-834-2348
afthomp@sbcglobal.net

SOUTHERN

Susanna French
2650 Brewers Hwy
Benton, KY 42025
270-205-1316
susannafrench@hotmail.com

WESTERN

Dawn Knight
1090 Evergreen Rd
Prescott, AZ 86303
928-445-4471
dawnknight@cablone.net

FOUNDER

Rilla Moran Woods,
North Carolina

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

West Virginia
Carye Blaney
P O Box 883
Morgantown, WV 26507
304-282-3005
caryeblaney@hotmail.com

California

Pat Hobbs
26409 Misty Ridge Pl
Canyon Country, CA 91387
661-424-9077
pattyhobbs@aol.com

Michigan

Virgie Rollins
19432 Burlington Drive
Detroit, MI 48203
313-892-6199
virgiemrollins@hotmail.com

Come Join Us in Missouri in 2014



NFDW 2014 Convention in Kansas City, Missouri

June 11–15, 2014

Sheraton at the Crown Center

Hosted by the Missouri Federation of Democratic Women's Clubs

Hotel in Crown Center (home of Hallmark)

Keep checking the web page at nfdw.com for the latest registration and tour information.

If you would like to place an ad in the NFDW Convention Program Booklet or would like to sponsor an event for the convention, please contact Cindy Jenks at marysjenks@yahoo.com

Proposed Changes to Bylaws

Deadline February 1, 2014

Believe it or not it is almost time to request from you all proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the National Federation of Democratic Women. The current By-laws can be found on our website at nfdw.com.

At the last convention there was a great deal of discussion regarding amending the current by-laws to accommodate recent technological changes and bring greater clarity to the positions and organizational structure of our Federation. Many of the suggestions were great but in order to make these changes, we must amend our existing by-laws.

All changes to the by-laws must be submitted to the By-Laws Committee and the president no later than February 1, 2014 by the members- at-large. This may be done by e-mail or through the mail.

As advisor to this committee, you may submit them to:

Janice Haynes Davis, Immediate Past President

1420 Primrose Road, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20012

e-mail msjhd@aol.com

And

Carye Blaney, President

P.O. Box 883

Morgantown, W.V. 26507

e-mail caryeblaney@hotmail.com

Thank you.

Janice Haynes Davis

Awards and Internship Nominations

Deadline February 1, 2014

Dear Members of the NFDW,

The National Convention will be fast approaching. Please start thinking of your nominees for consideration for: **Outstanding NFDW Member of the Year, Outstanding Elected Democratic Woman Holding Public Office** and **the NFDW Humanitarian Award**. The guidelines for these awards are on line on our website. The deadline is May 1, 2014. Please send your nominations to me, Patricia Sirois, 45 Jefferson Lane, East Hartford, CT 06118. For information or questions, feel free to call me at home: 860-568-0065 or cell: 860-416-8345.

Please also send nominations for the **NFDW Internship Award** to me at above address. The deadline is also May 1, 2014. You can find the Internship application on our website as well.

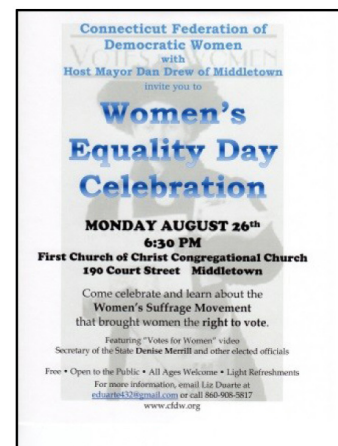
Thank you and looking forward to seeing you in Kansas City, Missouri in June 2014.

Patricia Sirois, Chair
NFDW Awards Committee

Connecticut Promotes Women's Equality Day

The Connecticut Federation of Democratic Women held our annual program to promote awareness about Women's Equality Day on August 26th. We partnered with Middletown Mayor Dan Drew in hosting this event. We were able to educate our audience about the fight for women's right to vote by showing the video "Votes for Women". The Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame displayed panels of the Suffrage Movement featuring Connecticut women who were leaders in the movement. Congressman Joe Courtney, Mayor Dan Drew, Secretary of the State Denise Merrill, and Comptroller Kevin Lembo spoke about Women's Equality Day and the importance of women voting and being involved in politics. We thank the Women's History Project (www.nwhp.org) for their resources that made our day a great success!

Elizabeth Duarte
President



NFDW 2013 Southern Region Conference & Meeting

Fort Myers, Florida (the “City of Palms”) welcomed scores of “Women in Blue” on November 8th and 9th, 2013 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Southern Democratic women leaders from across the South gathered to celebrate returning President Barack Obama to the White House and to coordinate ongoing efforts to influence legislative issues important to women: education, equality, health care, comprehensive immigration reform, women’s reproductive rights, protecting the right to vote and the environment. Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia comprise the Southern Region of National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW).

Following an earlier registration period, our Democratic Women’s Clubs leaders, along with a few men members, used a lively reception to network with other progressive thinkers, re-establish old friendships, make new ones and share a few stories and laughs.

The Democratic Women’s Club of Florida, Inc. was proud to host the event. Its newly-elected President Dr. Maureen McKenna, Ph. D., set a wonderful tone in her opening comments for the Conference on Saturday. She declared that Southern women will help turn the South “Blue”. She quoted Mother Jones in their claim that the new “DixieChicks” are changing the South steadily.

Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson offered a warm welcome to all and said he was humbled and appreciative of the Convention inviting him. He said he had just come off of an election victory earlier in the week. He recognized Marni Sawicki, who was in the audience, for having been elected Mayor of Cape Coral Florida also earlier in the week. Randy said he looked forward to working with Marni and coordinating their efforts to improve the Southwest Florida area.

***Fun tidbit:** Ms. Marni Sawicki, member of the Democratic Women’s Club of Lee County was elected Mayor of Cape Coral Florida, population 150,000 covering 120 square miles. Ms. Sawicki is the first woman to win the Mayor’s office and the first Democrat elected to that office. Three other members of the DWC of Lee County are also seeking election in 2014 to offices for US House, Florida State House, and local County Commission.*

The Reverend Allison Farnum, Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Fort Myers, led the invocation. Reverend Farnum is highly engaged in social issues in the Fort Myers community and is recognized as an expert on the issues of undocumented residents in Southwest Florida. She encouraged the audience to form new relationships while at the Conference because “When we come together, we’re able to “dream bigger.”

Susanna French, Southern Region Director of the NFDW, called the Conference to order. Ms. French is a Democratic leader from Kentucky and currently serves as a Board Officer with Emerge Kentucky, an organization that has trained over 900 Democratic women to run for public office and is committed to insuring women are fairly represented throughout government.

A short video featuring US Congresswoman and Chair of the Democratic National Committee, Debbie Wasserman Shultz, welcomed the Convention to Florida and expressed regret in not being at the meeting personally to support the efforts of Democratic Women.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Annisa Karim, Chairwoman of the Collier County, Florida, Democratic Party. She also flawlessly performed the duties of audio/visual manager for the Convention.

(continued next page)



Left to right: Carye L. Blaney, President NFDW; Dr. Maureen McKenna, President Democratic Women’s Clubs of Florida; Susanna French, Southern Regional Director NFDW.

Southern Region *(continued)*

Fun Tidbit: Ms. Karim is the Chair of the Democratic Executive Committee of Collier County (Naples). She is also a Land Stewardship Coordinator for Lee County and an expert on conservation matters in Southwest Florida.

Carye Blaney, President of the NFDW explained to the audience why it is critical for women to vote. She spoke about how it is getting harder to make ends meet, to have security and educational opportunities for families and that women are always the ones that “Fix It”. She challenged the Democratic women to Fix issues by working together on policies that allow the undocumented to move towards citizenship, provide pay equity for women by

passing the Paycheck Fairness Act, extend full civil rights to the GLBT community, Comprehensive Immigration Reform, defend women’s productive rights, protect the middle class by focusing on student loans and the success of the Affordable Care Act, increase the minimum wage and protect voting rights.

President Blaney suggested “we know the problems” and to Fix It, we need to elect more women to office.” She reminded the audience that there are only 6 female governors, 12 women state Secretaries of State and women are underutilized in Congress and local public office. She called on the Women in Blue to elect a Democratic woman President. She explained that the NFDW was part of a Democratic alliance and that Federation represents over 100,000 women, provides structure, has a long history of success and it’s time we join together, increase membership and raise money, although too often it’s harder for women candidates to raise money, but “when Democrats win America prospers.”

Fun Tidbit: Ms. Blaney serves as Clerk of Courts in Monongalia County (Morgantown), West Virginia and has been recognized as one of the most innovative and progressive County Clerks in America

“Florida’s Hidden History” was the topic of Dr. Martha R. Bireda, Ph. D. She took the audience through the forgotten history of how black women helped win the Civil War. She said these women took great personal risk in expressing their power. An example given by Dr. Bireda was Mary Touvestre, who as a freed slave came back to work for a Confederate engineer working on modifications to the ironclad CSS Virginia. Had the plans been accomplished, the South may well have broken the naval blockade imposed by the Union. She was thought to be powerless and oblivious. But, she copied the plans, traveled two hundred miles in the winter of 1862 and delivered the plans to the Union Secretary of the Navy. Her work as a spy led directly to an expedited completion of the Union’s ironclad, Monitor, and to its rapid deployment to Virginia. This ended in the first ironclad naval battle and a stalemate that kept the blockade in place.

Other examples cited of heroic women thought to have no power were: Harriet Tubman a freed slave that rescued more than 300 slaves on nineteen missions into the South and led an armed expedition in the Civil War; Mrs. Darbney a slave washwoman for Confederate officers who, with her husband, invented a way of relaying Rebel troop movements by positioning clothes on a clothesline and a literate slave with a photographic memory; Mary Bowser, who would secretly relay information from her owner, Jefferson Davis’ desk.

These “powerless” women were critical to the Union winning the Civil War and Dr. Bireda called on the audience to use its power to bring freedom and equality to all people.

Fun Tidbit: Dr. Bireda is the founder of the Blanchard House Museum of African American History and Culture of Charlotte County, Florida. The house was built in the 1920s for Joseph Blanchard, a black sea captain and key member of the early Punta Gorda, Florida business community.

Vice Chair of the Florida Democratic Party, Annette Taddeo-Goldstein, on behalf of Party Chairwoman, Allison Tant, welcomed the NFDW to Florida. She asked us to remember it is important to have good candidates for all levels of government. She announced the recent Democratic election wins in St. Pete and Homestead and called on Democratic women to keep an open dialogue so that the right candidate can be chosen.

(continued next page)

Southern Region *(continued)*

Vocalist Marcella Brown, age 16, from Punta Gorda, Florida presented *An American Tapestry* of music, leading the audience in the singing of the National Anthem. Marcella also sang Lee Greenwood's *I'm Proud to be an American* and *Pie Jesu*, written by Andrew Lloyd Weber, a song which he dedicated to the victims of violence in Northern Ireland.

With the final words "Grant us peace" we moved to the adjoining room for lunch.

Claire Conner was the luncheon featured speaker as the author of the bestseller, "Wrapped in the Flag, A Personal History of America's Radical Right". Ms. Conner provided the group with her fascinating and highly relevant family experience. For over 25 years her father was a national spokesperson of the John Birch Society and her mother was also a JBS supporter.

Ms. Conner said she rejected her family's bigotry and today believes America can be a better, more inclusive place because she reads. One series of fictional books, "Outlander" depicted a heroine that went back in time and knew the future. She said based on her early background she too thinks she can divine the future of the right wing. The old radical right mutated into today's religious right and Tea Party agenda of banning abortion, fighting gay rights, denying climate change, seeking the destruction of the United Nations, killing comprehensive immigration reform, ending civil rights protections, killing social and welfare programs and ending the labor union movement.

The Birchers moved south and joined with the KKK and white citizens councils. They seek an army of one million believers, not a majority at the polls. She said progressives tend to "play nice" and are ill-prepared to fight a civil war of nullification – where states nullify federal laws they think are wrong.

Ms. Conner said the answer is to raise a new generation that believes government is part of us and works for the common good and stands up for the poor.

Fun Tidbit: In one of her postings on her web-page <http://claireconner.com>, Ms. Conner wrote: "When you strip away all the trappings, the Koch Brothers and their allies propose the identical ideas I heard from my father and his Birch allies: this is an unholy marriage of radical libertarian economics in the Ayn Rand model and a regressive, unrelenting culture war. "Put it together and you have exactly what the Birchers longed for: a dismantled safety net, a federal government 40% of its current size and a free-for-all, laissez faire economy where the rich pay no taxes, business has no regulation and the workers have no unions. "The government will be tiny, but what is left will control our personal life, our sexual preference, our fertility, our civil rights and our right to vote. "Welcome to the right wing future."

A Business Meeting followed Ms. Conner's speech with reports from the President and the various committees. Jane Grey-Todd, President of the DWC of Arkansas asked that we remember who we are and how far we've come, but we must have a fire in our guts. Dr. Maureen McKenna, Ph. D., President Democratic Women's Club of Florida, said her focus was on increasing membership and a variety of other initiatives such as refining membership lists, monthly educational town halls, handbook revisions, County Chair conference calls, implementation of a political committee to help make Florida blue, and plans for the 2014 St. Augustine state convention and the March 24/25th Tally Days in the state capital. Peggy Monroe, Tennessee DWC President, reported priorities as electing Democrats to state office, bringing in younger members by using social media. Catherine Altizer, Media Relations Director for West Virginia DWC reported on behalf of Susan Hubbard, President, that the focus for her state was grass roots and bringing in younger members also through social media, Susanna French, Southern Region Director, NFDW and representing Kentucky reported that the state's ACA exchanges were working and she apologized to all for the state's two Senators, Mitch McConnell and Rand Paul. Susanna also showed an amusing video by Allison Grimes, candidate for US Senate that featured her grandmothers using Facebook (the link for the video is: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BHcRdMxG6o>).

The Convention then broke out into Workshops on Social Media (led by Catherine Altizer) and "Lobbying 101" (led by Nancy Hurlbert). Following a raffle fundraiser the Convention adjourned.

(continued next page)

Pennsylvania Women in Blue

Several members of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women joined Pennsylvania lawmakers for a Woman in Blue Day at the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg on October 15.

Federation members toured the Capitol, met for a picture in the Capitol Rotunda, lunched with Legislators and was introduced on the floor of the PA House and the PA Senate. This was the Federation's second Women in Blue event.

The Federation's next event is the Outstanding Elected Democratic Women event planned for Sunday, November 24 in New Cumberland. Statewide honoree will be Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Granahan Kane. She is the first Democrat and the first woman ever elected to this office. Eleven other elected Democratic women will be honored from all across the state.

(For more information please contact Susan Rutt at susanrutt@aol.com.)



Southern Region *(continued)*

But the day did not end. Numerous attendees went on to enjoy a production of the musical "Cats" at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theater in Fort Myers. A reception prior to the delicious dinner and the well received play offered the Convention goers one last chance to socialize and recommit themselves to the Women In Blue's efforts to protect and expand the progressive movement.

Fun tidbit: The owner and Executive Producer of the Broadway Palm is Will Prather. Will is the previous Chair of the Democratic Executive Committee of Lee County (Fort Myers), Florida. He is an avid supporter of the Democratic Party and served on Obama campaign Finance Committee in 2008 and 2012.

Fort Myers was a wonderful venue and the Conference/Meeting was very successful. Many of those attending look forward to returning to Southwest Florida to enjoy the beaches and ideal weather. Thank you DWCF and Region Seven for such a productive and fun Conference.

By J. C. Helms, DWC of Lee County

Photo by Lori Spencer, DWC of Lee County

50th Anniversary March on Washington

On August 24th, 2013 the DC Federation of Democratic Women marched with thousands of Americans throughout the country in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington and the inspirational “I Have a Dream” speech by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The day long commemoration drew more than 200,000 in a day filled with many activities, speeches, events and nostalgia.

On August 28, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial where he delivered his famous “I have a Dream Speech” to hundred thousands of protesters who gathered in Washington DC for a political rally. Dr. King’s speech inspired millions across the world as he spoke on a common theme of jobs, inequality and justice. That moment in history became a leading drive in the civil rights movement.

Political leaders, speaking from the steps where Dr. King stood 50 years ago, outlined what they said were promises yet unfulfilled in preserving voting rights, quelling gun violence, reducing economic disparity and achieving equal protection under the law. Among the thousands were more women, more Hispanics and more people representing sexual diversity than their predecessors 50 years before. Members of the DC Federation joined residents of the District of Columbia gathered en massed as they continued to push for full voting rights, Statehood. education, jobs, women rights and health care.

On August 28th President Barack Hussein Obama, the first black president of the United States of America, marked the 50th anniversary with a powerful declaration that economic inequality has left the dream unfulfilled for many Americans. Standing on the same steps of the Lincoln Memorial where Dr. King delivered his resounding address in 1963, the President said that Dr. King’s words “belong to the ages, possessing a power and prophecy unmatched in our time”.

A common message emerged throughout the two days of commemoration from the disparate voices: “Unite to improve conditions for everyone.”

Estell Mathis Lloyd



Idaho News

So far this year I have done lots of travel though out our state. We had our Summer Tour with Young Democrats Caucus, Latino Caucus, LDS Democrats Caucus and Idaho Democratic Women's Caucus. Our focus was to introduce the new Caucus, recruit new members and do Precinct Training. The Women's Caucus has been established since 1999, and the other Caucus' are just getting established in Idaho. It was fun traveling with our young Democrats and meeting lots of new young and more seasoned Democrats. I see our future is in good hands.

Idaho Democratic Women's Caucus had their annual "Garage Sale" in Kootenai County, Northern Idaho. Kootenai County IDWC members do their spring cleaning and donate to the sale. We had lots of good items. We made about \$650.00. That money is used to train women candidates.

Idaho State Democrats had their fall central committee meeting in Twin Falls. There were three candidates spoke at the IDWC luncheon. It is never too early to recruit and start training.

Barb Harris, President IDWC



SUMMER TOUR

Sue Chew, Legislator, Jen Martinez, Latino Caucus, Tom Hamilton, Young Democrats, Barb Harris IDWC

Michigan, Pathway To Success

Michigan Democratic Women Caucus had a very successful Young Women Leadership training September 28 2013. Award winning TV writer/producer Jenny Blackton of the Association of Democratic Chairs led the training. She was OUTSTANDING. Over 50 young women who were running for office were in attendance and we had young women who were interested in running campaigns and wanting internships in elected offices.

Everyone was so excited and was very enthusiastic about the training. Looking forward to next year.



Kansas

Four Sedgwick Co. FWDC women rallied around Howard Dean, former DNC Chair and six term Governor of Vermont for support at a brunch in Hays, Kansas, on November the 4th . Darrell Hamlin, Shala Mills, and Ellis County Democrats were hosts. Dean was debating Senator Rick Santorum on the Fort Hays State University campus that evening for a Keith Sebelius Lecture Series. We were happy to attend the debate in the University's auditorium even though we were in the minority, but Democrats in Kansas are used to that. Governor Dean represented Democrats very well. The Fort Hays campus is about 4 hours from our Wichita area.

Ardena Matlack



Left to right: the Ellis Co. Chair, 2nd-Darrell Hamlin; Sylvia Kelly, Sg. Co.; Ardena Matlack, Sg. Co.; Howard Dean; Helen Knetzer, Sg. Co.; Marge Zakoura-Vaughan, Sg. Co.; and Shala Mills.

New York State FDW Report

Our Officers are

President — Lena Bishop — lenabishop1@yahoo.com - 607-343-4351 - cell

President-elect — Pat O'dwyer

1st Vice President — Margharita Rossi

2nd Vice President — Vanessa Traido

Corresponding Secretary — Mickey Morgano

Treasurer — Juanita Hale

We have new counties joining NYSFDW – Tioga County of Democratic women, Tioga County of Democratic Women Caucus, Fulton County Democratic Women, Delaware Democratic Women, and the Eleanor Roosevelt Legacy

Other members are — Orange County Democratic Women, Ulster County Democratic Women, Dutchess Democratic Women Caucus, Democratic Women of Broome County

Each county has had membership drives such as teas, with their respective Assemblywoman or senator as speakers. They all are working on women issues. They have supported all democratic candidates and are all working to find women to run for office. We all have had candidates training for new candidates.

Broome County has had a “Are you Ready for Hillary Meeting.” We had 40 people attending with a conference call from Allida , the chair of the Ready for Hillary grassroots movement organizer.

Each County is busy at work for the upcoming elections. Having meet and greet with their Candidates.

Democratic Women of Broome County also give out two Scholarships of \$800 each to a graduating senior in high school. They have also had a garage sale which gave monies to women candidates.

We have a woman candidate for City of Binghamton Mayor — Teri Rennia, the election is close — Eileen Konecky, a candidate for Endicott Trustee and Sue Messina, a candidate for Vestal council. We're all working hard to get them elected.

Our New York State Federation meeting was held on Nov 9 at the Double Tree and Conference Center in Binghamton, New York. A Ready for Hillary Meeting was held with surrounding county chairs and interested supporters of Hillary Clinton.

We were thrilled to have our Eastern Region Chairwomen, Susan Rutt be one of guest speaker at our NYSFDW meeting. We also had Allida Black, Chairwoman of Ready for Hillary group; Brett McSweeney, chairwoman of Eleanor Roosevelt Legacy; Donna Lupardo, Assemblywomen; Irene Stein – Chairwoman of Tompkins County and also DRC President Barbara Fiala, Commissioner of Dept of Motor Vehicle who installed our new state officers.

New York Federation of Democratic Women have the following social media sites:

Website — www.website.com/nysfdw

Facebook — www.facebook.com/nysfdw

Twitter — www.twitter.com/nysfdw

Regards

Lena Bishop, NYSFDW President



South Carolina

South Carolina Democratic Women's Council president, Susan Smith is putting the finishing touches on a bid for SC to host the Federation of Democratic Women's National Convention for 2015. Though out of the ordinary, she knows that southern hospitality, coupled with the chance for Democratic women from around the country to meet presidential primary candidates will be hard for the national board to resist. SC is fortunate in being an early primary state.

The South Carolina Democratic Women's Council led by President Susan Smith led a protest against Governor Nikki Haley's rally in Greenville for her re-election and we made national news! We had as many protesters as she had supporters.

Our Fall Forum will be held on December 7, 2013 in Columbia, SC at the Clarion Hotel. We are honored to have as our keynote speaker Congresswoman Barbara Lee. She will be introduced by her good friend and our Democratic Congressman, James Clyburn. She will be receiving the key to the city from Democratic mayor, Steve Benjamin.

Among the advocacy education for Democratic women Susan champions, will be panel discussions featuring SC elected women representing municipal, the state house and congressional points of view. Another panel discussion will feature different components of election integrity. On hand will be citizen activist, Frank Heindel, "I Voted?" documentary film maker, Jason Smith, and Kaye Koonce, our SCDP first Vice Chair and head of our party's election protection team. Helen Strain and Jay Parmley from "South Forward" will complete the advocacy workshops.

We will end our Forum with voting on bylaws changes that will put us more in sync with the rest of our national federation's officer structure.

Susan Y. Smith, President
South Carolina Democratic Women's Council



West Virginia News

West Virginia was honored to host the 2013 NFDW National Convention in Charleston, West Virginia in June 2013. We are very proud of our own Carye Blaney, who was elected and installed as President for the National Federation of Democratic Women. We were excited to have Cecil Roberts, President of the United Mine Workers of America speak at the banquet. Other speakers at the National Convention was WV Secretary of State Natalie Tennant who is now running for United States Senate and Delegate Meesha Poore who is now running for Congress.

Our State Annual Meeting was held in Bridgeport, WV in September 2013. Over 200 members attended. We have several members who have been very instrumental in promoting the WV Federation of Democratic Women and our State Party on social media. Catherine Altizer and Susan Miley conducted a social media workshop to train our members to better use Facebook and Twitter for our communication.

The WV State Democratic Party held its annual Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner on November 2, 2013. This year's dinner was held in honor of Senator Jay Rockefeller who has announced his retirement after more than 50 years in public service. There was a record crowd with over 2,000 Democrats in attendance. Senator Rockefeller and his family were present. Vice-President Joe Biden was the keynote speaker and talked about his service in the US Senate with Senator Rockefeller, former Senator Robert C. Byrd and former Senator Jennings Randolph.

This year's awards at the JJ Dinner went to:

Senator Jay Rockefeller — inducted into the WV Democratic Party Hall of Fame for his life time of service.

Carye L. Blaney — awarded the Democrat of Year for the State of West Virginia

Karen Coria — received the Eleanor Roosevelt Award not only for her service as Past President of the WVFDW but also for the work of her and her late husband Leff Moore in creating and developing a program to honor an Outstanding Democrat of the Year from each county in the State at the JJ Dinner. She has produced this program for the WV State Party for over 28 years.

Susan Hubbard
President, WV Federation of Democratic Women



On the left: Karen Coria awarded the Eleanor Roosevelt Award On the right: Carye L. Blaney, President of the National Federation of Democratic Women honored as the 2013 Statewide Democrat of the Year for West Virginia.