



THE SURVEY

Official Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Inc.

Kathy Jordan, Editor

Gwen Collins, Business Manager

Spring 2021 Issue

SAVE THE DATE

Election Day
May 18, 2021

PFDW Board Meeting
May 1st, 2021
Harrisburg, PA

PFDW Annual Convention
August 12-August 15, 2021
Lewisburg, PA

**Find us on the Web
& in Instagram**

www.PAFDW.org
#DemWomenRule

PFDW Mission

In 1927 The Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Inc., was founded to promote the appointment and election of Democratic women to responsible positions within all branches of government, to encourage the advancement of women in both the public and private sectors, and to advocate the principles of the Democratic Party.

Our Highlights 2021



PFDW 93rd Annual Convention
NFDW's 50th Anniversary Convention
Woman of the Year Nominations

PFDW 93RD
ANNUAL CONVENTION
PACKAGE

**Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women 93rd Annual
Convention - "Glass Ceiling Shattered"**

Welcome to the Best Western Plus Country Cupboard Inn
Lewisburg

7701 West Branch Highway, Lewisburg, PA, 17837

August 12 thru August 15, 2021

Please join Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Board and Members to celebrate our 93rd Annual Convention. We are uniting the State and together planning a convention to be remembered. This year's convention will be held at the Best Western plus Country Cupboard Inn Lewisburg. Room rates are \$109/night plus taxes and free parking and free breakfast for hotel guests. Make your room reservations directly with the Best Western by calling **570-524-5500** using code (PFDW), deadline for room reservations is July 10, 2021. Early check-in and late check-out can be arranged. There are 50 tickets for the Friday Dinner and Show. Friday Dinner and Show must be paid by June 25 to secure your show ticket. (First 50 tickets are ordered.)

Tentative Schedule

Thursday, August 12, 2021 – Registration 1:00 – 3:00 PM

3:00 PM – 5:30 PM – Welcome and Wine Tasting Tour

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM – Dinner on your own

8:00 PM – 9:00 PM – Officer's Meeting

Friday, August 13, 2021 – Registration 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – Opening Session & Nomination of Officers

12:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Regional Directors and Club President's Luncheon

3:30 PM – 4:12 PM - Regional Director's Election (Odd # Regions)

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Free time

5:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Dinner and Show Featuring Frankie Valli Tribute Show

9:00 PM – 11:00 PM – PFDW Pajama Party – Wyoming County Dem Women

Saturday, August 14, 2021 – Registration 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

6:30 AM – 9:30 AM – Breakfast on your own

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM – WALK-A-THON to benefit PFDW Scholarship

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM – Workshop

12:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Scholarship Luncheon

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM – Election of Officers

5:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Woman of the Year Banquet with special awards

9:00 PM – 10:30 PM – Entertainment 'Name that Tune' with Tor Michaels

Sunday, August 15, 2021

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM – Closing Session

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM – Brunch and Installation of Officers and Regional Directors

The Grand Raffle The grand raffle will be a Treasure Chest full of PA Lottery Scratch-Off Tickets ranging from \$5 to \$10. First prize, twenty-five (25) \$10 tickets, Second prize, ten (10) \$5 tickets and the seller of the First prize winning ticket will receive five (5) \$5 tickets. Each club is asked to sell a minimum of 60 tickets and each PFDW board member to sell a minimum of 30 tickets. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.

Please bring auction gifts We would ask that each board member and club provide an auction item with a value of \$25 (or more). Don't forget your wrapped \$1.00 gifts.

We need your help in securing Ads for the program booklet and sponsors for the convention events. Please make copies of the Ad form and distribute to as many elected officials, businesses, friends and club members as possible. All conventioners must pay a \$10 registration fee, with the exception of elected officials and speakers who are not PFDW members. **FIRST TIMERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND**

FOOD PACKAGE RESERVATION FORM

_____ **FULL CONV PACKAGE A - \$245** includes Friday Lunch and Dinner and show, Saturday Lunch and Dinner, Sunday Brunch and Convention Registration. **BONUS** 10 extra tickets for Saturday Evening Raffle

_____ **CONV PACKAGE B - \$210** includes Friday Dinner, Saturday Lunch and Dinner, Sunday Brunch and Convention Registration.

_____ **CONV PACKAGE C – \$150** Saturday Lunch and Dinner, Sunday Brunch and Convention Registration.

_____ **CONV PACKAGE D – \$175** same as Package A (**Students only**) Convention Registration

included. Make checks payable to: **PFDW Convention**. Attach check and mail registration form to:

Joan Heller, 737 Dry Run Road, Beech Creek, PA 16822 no later than **July 12, 2021**.
Questions, please call 570-726-0029 or email joan544@centurylink.net

Name: _____ County: _____ Region: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Amount Enclosed _____

★ **ALL MEALS ARE BUFFET - Friday night features Seafood, Saturday night features Prime Rib** ★

All meals are an extravaganza of delight

★★ **Meet your Judicial Candidates** ★★ **Join the Walk-A-Thon** ★★ **Workshop** ★★

★★ **GLASS CEILING SHATTERED** ★★

INDIVIDUAL MEAL TICKET ORDER FORM

_____ Friday Lunch \$50 _____ Friday Dinner and Show \$75

_____ Saturday Luncheon \$50 _____ Saturday Dinner \$55

_____ Sunday Brunch \$45

_____ **Registration Fee \$10 (required with all ticket purchases)**

Make checks payable to: **PFDW Convention**. Attach check and mail registration form to:
Joan Heller, 737 Dry Run Road, Beech Creek, PA 16822 no later
than **July 12, 2021**. Questions, please call 570-726-0029 or email
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Address: _____ City, _____ State,

Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Amount

Enclosed _____

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PFDW 93rd Annual Convention

Why Come to Convention 2021?

Because after everything we've been through, your *Convention Committee* thinks we are ready to have some fun along with our work! Here are the highlights of our August Convention: We moved to August from June so we'd all have time to get our shots and build up our immunity... so we can relax and enjoy each other. Won't it be fun to sit down together and heave a sigh of relief that we made it!!!

For the pure fun of it, Friday night is party night. This is our first chance to celebrate together all the hard work we did to start returning the country to health and sanity by electing Joe Biden and Kamala Harris. There's no speaker, and no work, just a chance to enjoy being in the Federation. We'll have an "*all you care to eat*" seafood buffet [usually accompanied by prime rib and ham], with all the fixings—soup, salad bar, dessert—and a Frankie Valli tribute band! Our resourceful President, Ruth Raglan got us a deal on prices, but hurry—*it's first come, first served!* Please register before June 20th because we only have so many tickets! Here's a link to the band's music, so you can see for yourself how good they are: <https://youtu.be/-azHwjNGg5A?list=TLGG8RU5-dNok5gxNjAzMjAyMQ> We'll finish the night with our Wyoming Club's famous pajama party!

Saturday lunch will celebrate our Scholarship winners. We're deciding on practically minded workshop topics for Saturday morning. And don't forget, this is a Federation election convention, for most offices, as we've lost a cycle due to the pandemic.

Saturday night, our candidate for Supreme Court, Judge Maria McLaughlin, is sponsoring a cocktail party for us! We'll have another fabulous buffet and cap the evening with DJ Tor Michaels' Name that Tune competition—with semi-fabulous prizes. Some of you already know Tor—in his day job, he's Rep. Scott Conklin's Chief of Staff.

As to the venue, if you haven't been to Lewisburg, you want to go! They have so many attractions that it's well worth coming a day early just to play. Do you like antiques? They have three huge complexes. Do you like wine, craft beer, or local restaurants? Lewisburg is home to Bucknell University, so hosts the local food and beverage scene you'd expect around a private Liberal Arts college. Our hotel is convenient to the historic downtown. The area's outdoor attractions could entertain your family for several days, between history and adventure. Here's a website where you can see more about destinations that could interest you: visitcentralpa.org Try the **Plan Your Trip** tab.

The Country Cupboard is a major destination in its own right, particularly famous for its extensive home-style buffets. Our hotel is adjacent, so we'll take lunch and dinner there in their banquet rooms every day. [*Breakfast is at the hotel, included with your room.*] But it's more than a restaurant—it's an acre of cute shops connected under one roof offering kitchen items, foodstuffs, a candy shop, home decor, women's clothing and jewelry, a garden shop [*the rose bushes will be on sale then*], and a bakery! Several of our members have sampled the bakery's goods extensively and swear by them. This link shows you the attractions the Country Cupboard offers: <https://countrycupboardinc.com>

Parking is free. They have a pool. The grounds are well kept, as befits a complex hosting a garden center. Lovely views for the walk-a-thon! The hotel rooms are huge. We have secured meeting rooms clustered together, all convenient to outdoor patios.

And of course, we'll have our raffle items—please contribute, to raise money for our great women candidates! Remember, we've missed a year of fundraising, so need to build up our coffers. Bring something, buy something, and soon we'll be there.

Our location is in the middle of the state, convenient to I-80 and RTE 11-15, so we look forward to hosting a wonderful mix of women from across Pennsylvania to reconnect after a long year in isolation and to make new friends. Come to share what you know and to learn from each other!

Most importantly, please join us to reimagine what the Federation should be as we move into the new normal—*which will be what we make it be!*

Cheers!

Dianne Gregg

Writing for the Convention Committee: Ruth Raglin, Roxanne Embick, Polly Delaney, Maryann Kapacs

**★★ Meet your Judicial Candidates ★★ Join the Walk-A-Thon ★★
Workshop★★**

★★ GLASS CEILING SHATTERED ★★



Excitement is building for **NFDW's 50th Anniversary Convention: "Women Build Back Better,"** held virtually on June 11 and 12. It will include a semi-formal Gala. Several high-profile speakers have been invited and this year awards will be presented during the Gala. Convention registration is now open and forms can be found on our website nfdw.com. Payment can be made by check and mailed to our Treasurer, or you can register and pay online. **EARLY BIRD DOOR PRIZE:** Everyone loves to win a door prize!!! We hope you're the lucky winner of a **\$100 check** that will be given away on, or soon after, **April 18 Early Bird deadline**. Each person who is holding a ticket for a seat at a table will qualify for a drawing for the **one \$100 check**. Each person who has purchased a ticket for the **Gala** will also qualify for the drawing for the \$100. **ONLINE AUCTION:** Another fun event will be our Online Auction that will be open for bidding from **June 6 to June 14**. Each state is requested to donate one item of **\$75 value or two items that total \$75**. You will be mailing these items, so take that into consideration when choosing your donation. One major item already committed is House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's autograph. All donations from around the country will be exciting. Email photos and descriptions of the auction items to Gail Buckner, gailbuckner@bellsouth.net. You may send now or no later than **May 20**.

WOMEN IN BLUE DAY ON THE HILL: This virtual event is scheduled for **Thursday, April 22, from 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.** Regretfully, we will not be able to meet in person to enjoy the comradery, civic engagement, and historic treasures in our Nation's Capital. Instead, we will attend from the comforts of our own home. I am sure you will miss many of the in-person activities that made this day special. Nonetheless, with our ingenuity, creativity and "sheer get-it-done attitude," we will be victorious. To get started, the Legislative Committee has drafted position papers on national issues. On **April 22**, the virtual event will include guest speakers, Congressional reports, and videos from each of you highlighting your advocacy with national representatives. Each state is asked to host zoom meetings with your Representatives and send a two (2) minute recorded summation to **Liz Duarte no later than April 1, 2021**. Feel free to use your creativity in developing the short video to be shown during the program. In addition, each State will be asked to present an oral report of your meetings.

STATE WOMEN IN BLUE DAY: *Each State Women In Blue Day* will be on the day of your choice and will also be a virtual event. Similar to our national advocacy efforts, your state summation must be provided in video format and will be presented at our **NFDW National Convention on June 11-12**. Your creativity and ingenuity to develop your theme, format, and summary are welcomed. Please submit a written report to include the date, a brief description of your activities, theme, number of participants and a two (2) minute video capturing the event **on or before April 15, 2021** to Susan Shelton at susan.shelton.tdw@gmail.com

Submitted by Susan Rutt, 2nd Vice President,



Excitement is building for **NFDW's 50th Anniversary Convention:**
"Women Build Back Better."

Our convention planning committee has been hard at work mapping out the details of a virtual convention that will include a semi-formal Gala. Several high-profile speakers have been invited and this year awards will be presented during the Gala. Since we'll be very festive for our Gala, there will be entertainment that we're sure will have you up dancing to the music.

Convention registration is now open and forms can be found on our website nfdw.com. Payment can be made by check and mailed to our Treasurer, or you can register and pay online.

ALERT EARLY BIRD DOOR PRIZE

Everyone loves to win a door prize!!! We hope that you're the lucky winner of a **\$100 check** that will be given away on, or soon after, **April 18 Early Bird deadline**. Each person who is holding a ticket for a seat at a table will qualify for a drawing for the **one \$100 check**. Each person who has purchased a ticket for the **Gala** will also qualify for the drawing for the \$100. So, if you're the owner of these table tickets and you have purchased a Gala ticket, then you have two chances to win the **\$100 Early Bird Door Prize**.

ONLINE AUCTION

Another fun event will be our Online Auction that will be open for bidding from **June 6 until June 14**.

Each state is requested to donate one item of **\$75 value or two items that total \$75**. Remember you will be mailing these items, so take that into consideration when choosing your donation. One major item already committed is House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's autograph. All the donations from around the country will be exciting.

Email photos and descriptions of the auction items to Gail Buckner, gailbuckner@bellsouth.net. You may send now or no later than **May 20**.



**NFDW's 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
IS GONG TO BE A GREAT ONE!**



WALK-A-THON



The Walk-a-thon benefits the PFDW Scholarship Fund which is open to Pennsylvania women in the sophomore or junior class of an accredited college or university in a four year undergraduate degree program.

It's opportunities like these that will lift women up.

Donor

Donation

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Walker

Total Raised

Empowered Women Empower Women

If people get a \$10 donation for each line, they will have raised \$100. Let's work at reaching that goal, ladies. Captains for the Walk-A-Thon are: Christine McGahgan, Shanon Miller and Gwen Collins



Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women

Memorial Scholarship Award Application 2021

Eligibility: Any Pennsylvania woman in the sophomore or junior class of an accredited college or university in a four year undergraduate degree program. Be in academic good standing and be a registered Democratic voter. Applicant must possess family Democratic Party background or be an active participant in the activities of the Democratic Party.

Award: Scholarship award to be used during the junior or senior year. Presentation will be at the Memorial Scholarship Luncheon of the PFDW 94th Convention, at Lewisburg, PA June 10-13, 2021.

NAME OF APPLICANT _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

NAME OF COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY _____

MAJOR/MINOR _____

ACTIVITIES _____

PLACE REGISTERED TO VOTE _____

WITH THIS APPLICATION SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING

I. A ONE PAGE ESSAY EXPLAINING:

- a. Need for this scholarship
- b. Your professional goals
- c. Your Democratic Party activities
- d. Your family Democratic Party involvement

II. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM A FACULTY MEMBER IN YOUR MAJOR.

III. LETTER OF SPONSORSHIP FROM A PFDW CLUB OR MEMBER.

In addition to the above: A SEALED OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT FROM YOUR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR MUST BE MAILED UNDER SEPARATE COVER.

Note: - **All documents must be sent via regular mail.**

- **Any documents sent via email will not be accepted.**

- **All documents must be postmarked by June 1, 2021 to be considered for scholarship.**

Use the address below for all mailings.

Michelle Price - PFDW Scholarship Chair
462 W. Grant Street
Easton, PA 18042

For more information or questions,

Contact Michelle Price

484-635-0127

mbernsonprice@gmail.com

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Each year the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women honors an outstanding woman as Woman of the Year.

Each club and board member is asked to nominate by June 1, 2021 a PFDW member they feel has demonstrated exceptional dedication and meets the required criteria in the previous year. From these nominations the annual PFDW Woman of the Year is selected and recognized at a special dinner during the annual convention.

This year we will have two WOY since we did not have one last year. I am asking that votes are accompanied by a monetary donation. Please give what you can because your donation funds the scholarship program. If you nominate, make sure your members are voting and contributing also. No nominations will be considered past the due date. The President will decide if names of donors will be placed in Convention Book. Thank you for all you do. Stay safe.

Criteria for Woman of Year

The Nominee must:

- be a participating member of the PFDW
- encourage membership and involvement in the PFDW
- show personal contributions to PFDW as well as the Democratic Party
- regularly attend the PFDW Convention held each June
- be a mentor in assisting women reaching their full leadership potential
- believe in and support the ideals of the Democratic Party
- provide a valuable service by devoting time and energy to improve the vision of the Democratic Party principles while enhancing the PFDW image

A completed nomination form with attached resume must be submitted for consideration by June 1, 2021.

WOMEN OF THE YEAR

2019 – Dianne Gregg
2018 – Tracey Lynn Arriola
2017 – Kaija Farber
2016 – Kathy Huggins
2015 – Sandi Vulcano
2014 – Donna Frank
2013 – Charlene Doyle
2012 – Susan Stoltzfus
2011 – Dorothy Gallagher
2010 – Helen Whiteford
2009 – Harriet Eshleman
2009 – Janet Spleen
2008 – Joanne Messenlehner
2007 – Dr. Michele Bortner Sellitto

2006 – Ruth Raglin
2005 – Dolores “Dee” J. McAllister
2004 – Joan Kelley
2003 – Catherine Baker Knoll
2003 – Rosalie Sim
2002 – Shirley Protzman
2001 – Patsy Hebor
2000 – Martha Smith
1999 – Winnie James
1998 – Mary Uehlein
1997 – Peg Hain
1996 – Anna Abajace
1996 – Shirley Wanamaker

PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

NOMINATION FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

NOMINEE _____

ADDRESS _____

REGION _____ NUMBER OF YEARS A MEMBER _____

ELECTED/APPOINTED WOMEN'S PFDW OFFICES HELD:

LOCAL _____

REGIONAL _____

STATE _____

NATIONAL _____

On a separate sheet:

* List all the services to the Democratic Women, the Democratic Party and Local Community

* Tell why this nominee should be selected as the 2020 PFDW Woman of the Year

NOMINATED BY: Individual OR ORGANIZATION)

CONTACT PERSON, PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL

Please return this form by May 15, 2021 to:

MARY ANN KAPACS

PFDW WOMAN OF THE YEAR CHAIR

623 EAST SPRUCE ST.

OLYPHANT, PA 18447

570-351-3495

mimik1954@aol.com

Region 1 – Black Democratic Women of Montgomery County
Co-Presidents: Adrian Crowder & Gwen Jackson



While 2020 was a year we will never forget, we are looking forward to making up for time lost and *Building Back Better* from the dire effects of the prior administration. As we combat the coronavirus, we are grateful some of our members have already been vaccinated and are ensuring our friends and families of the safety of the vaccinations while encouraging them to get vaccinated when eligible. In the spirit of safety, we are meeting virtually but anxious for in-person meetings. Our membership is growing. One of our members, A. Nicole Phillips is running for Judge, Court of Common Pleas in November. Nicole will be the 2nd African American woman to hold the seat of Common Pleas Judge in Montgomery County, when she wins. We will again support Amanda Green-Hawkins, who is running for Judge, Commonwealth Court. Working collaboratively with both Nicole and Amanda, in support of their campaigns, is our priority.

We are aligned with EMERGE Pennsylvania and the Montgomery County Democratic Committee; we receive numerous inquiries through our website ([BDWMC.org](https://www.bdwmc.org)) and much engagement on our [Facebook Page/BDWMC.](#) These platforms allow us to inform, influence and celebrate successes. The Club is identifying fundraising activities to execute for late Spring/early Summer 2021 and are considering another Town Hall event.

Committed to keeping PA Blue, we will continue to support local Democratic candidates through literature drops, phone banking and post card mailings. We will also use our social media platforms to increase voter engagement and share pertinent information.



A. Nicole Phillips

[Common Pleas Court Judge](#)

Black Democratic Women of Montgomery County

Region 2 – Philadelphia Democratic Women Caucus

President: Shantale Galloway

Congratulations to Shantale Galloway!

Shantale is the new President of The Philadelphia Democratic Women Caucus!

Women's History Month Honorees

In acknowledgment for their dedication and passion for their communities, and in recognition of Women's History Month, The Philadelphia Democratic Women Caucus has honored:

Ms. Kimberly Washington, Committeewoman



For over 25 plus years, Ms. Kimberly Washington has served in the 2nd Ward and maintains focus on outreach by assisting those in need of home financing, household needs such as food and basic essentials for living, and she has worked alongside Philadelphia

organizations who share the same vision for providing communities with resources.

Mrs. Denise Ripley

A member of The Philadelphia Democratic Women Caucus, has served as neighborhood Block Captain for 30 plus years. She has also served as a Community Leader and worked with the Democratic State Committee for 12 years, with consistent work on the Mayor's Advisory Board. Mrs. Ripley volunteered for AARP as a tutor and mentor for programs in public schools.

Shantale Galloway

*President, Philadelphia Democratic Women
Caucus*

*Regional Director, PA Federation of
Democratic Women*

Concerned Women on the Move

President: Kathryn Huggins

We haven't had any live meetings some time due to the COVID-19, but we have been conducting meetings through ZOOM. We were very disappointed in the meeting conducted by State Committee during the month of February 2021. During this meeting no African-American candidates were endorsed by the Committee, which is disgraceful. We need to reorganize the Pennsylvania Democratic Party to mimic the

existing Democratic Party in Georgia. We need to either contact Stacy Abrams for assistance, or find someone with her caliber of experience to assist us with this matter. We are proud of member, The Honorable Joanna McClinton who is now the Minority Leader of the State Representative. She is the first African-American to hold this title. We are hoping that one day she will be able to hold a higher level of office in the state. After the recent retirement of Ms. Pearl Hillary the members of her group have now joined Concerned Women on the Move. The Concerned Women on the Move are endorsing Amanda Green Hawkins for Commonwealth Court.

Submitted by Kathy Huggins

Region 4 – Lackawanna County Federation of Democratic Women

President: Mary Kate Donahue



Lackawanna County Federation of Democratic Women President Mary Kate Donahue presents a check to Chris Patrick, Chairman of Lackawanna County

Members l-r, Patti Rieder, Carol Thoms, Mary Ann Kapacs, Cathy Wechsler, Mauri Kelly, and Susie Connors.

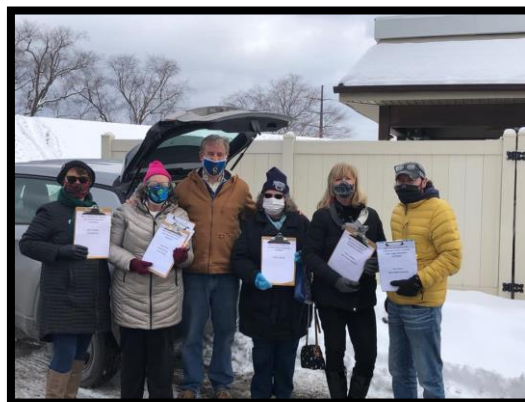
The LCFDW had a busy political fall working towards victory. Our group was extremely excited because Lackawanna County is now where Presidents are born! We congratulate President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris on their history making win. We are also happy to report our favorite Congressman Matt Cartwright continues to work for us! We are all sleeping much better.

Our group conducted a successful Poinsettia fundraiser in December. In February, we held a drive thru petition signing. We also

collected food and monetary donations for United Neighborhood Center at the signing. We were grateful for the outpouring of support. Many thanks to our members who braved the cold and wind to help. It was so nice to see them in person!

We move into Spring with purpose to keep the momentum going. Hopefully, we will be able to meet again at some point. With Spring comes sunshine, flowers and new life. We will be welcoming new little Democrats into our LCFDW group.

Stay safe, stay healthy and hope to see you in August.



l-r Sharon Quinn, Ro Hume, Congressman Matt Cartwright, Mary Ann Kapacs and Eric Jordan

Region 4 – Luzerne County Democratic Women

President: Polly Delaney

Hello 2021! The chapter thought outside the box due to a virus that affected many. The chapter continued communication using phone calls, Messenger, texts, letters and postcards.

When petition signing came about the chapter planned a "drive up" signing event. A chapter member (wearing a plastic glove) gave each driver a LCDW ink pen (for them to keep and use to sign petitions). We had nine candidates. After receiving

their pen, the driver would drive to first candidate, sign and then move to the next candidate. Yes, an assembly line which proved fun and popular! The chapter is being encouraged to continue this process.



Chapter volunteers pictured are:

Ruth Passage, Cindy Taylor, Emily Rowe, Polly Delaney, Sarina Rowe, Patti Rowe and Roxanne Rembis (along with husbands and children)

The chapter looks forward to meeting (outside dining) for lunch and committee planning.

The LCDW will turn four years old in September, with of course, a Birthday Party!

Exciting activities being planned!

Yes, hello 2021!

Region 7 – Adams County Federation of Democratic Women

President: Helen Cook

I believe everyone across the State can easily state that the Year 2020 was hard for us to gather. In Adams, I can state we only met once as a group the entire year. The officers met a few times. I am very proud of our club due to the hard work and dedication to elect Joe Biden and Kamal Harris. We all were searching for true leadership. I think we can all say November 2020 was the highlight of the year. I think everyone reading this needs to pat themselves on the

back. We did it. Some of us worked on postcards, phone banking not only for the President and Vice President. We worked the phones and mail for the race in GA.



Adams County had our Annual Christmas appeal. This year the drive touched my heart. The support was generous. This year is one of the best we have held over the past several years. We were able to purchase a laptop for a young lady in middle school. It was not for fun but a necessity she needed for her academics. We were able to gift a young man a Kindle Fire tablet, along with some personal items, clothes, and shoes.

We made a monetary donation to a single mother to help out over the holidays. We depend on donors along with our funds in the club's checking account. Each year our account goes down no very little funds. This is one of the ways we feel we can give back. Sadly. We were not able to work the Soup

Kitchen over the holidays. We hope we can be there this year over the holidays. We hope to have more to share with the Fall survey. The most important statement I can say is that all of us did our part of quarantining and no one had contracted Covid-19. We looking forward to gathering at PFDW convention in August. Everyone stay safe until we can meet again.

Submitted by Helen Cook,

Third President PFDW

President of the Adams County Federation of
Democratic Women
Adams County Democratic Committee Precinct
leader- East Berlin

Region 8 – Berks Democratic Women

President: Linda Woleslagle

Berks Democratic Women Club Philosophy

Berks Democratic Women (BDW) navigated this dynamic year of changes with a belief in themselves and in others. BDW Leaders' optimism is rooted in seeing assets where others may see deficits, drawing upon strengths, capabilities and insights from their communities and find ways to build on bright spots in their communities.

Multiple positive conversations, interactions and observations make people feel being heard, respected, valued and create trust.

Trust emerges from BDW Leaders who genuinely cared about others, earned their respect by holding others in high regard and

demonstrated integrity by treating others fairly.

Berks Democratic Women Programs

Ruth Bader Ginsberg – Revolution of the Heart Zoom Symposiums featuring 15 to 20 young community activists, resulted in lively discussions, entertainment and raffles.

Thought Provoking Monthly Zoom Programs

- October 2020: Vote by Mail Challenge. Pep Rally to Get Out to Vote
- November 2020: Symposium (covered above)
- December 2020: No program
- January 2021 – “Pathway to Environmental Justice”
- February 2021 – “The Recasting of the Vote: How Women of Color Transformed the Suffragettes plus a 2nd program was held later in February featuring Women of Color who are running for office or are Community Leaders.
- March 2021 – “Candidate Judges and Candidates Running for Office” Forum. Plus “Why Pennsylvania Court System is so important” and “The current attempt to Gerrymander the Election of Pennsylvania Judges.”

BDW Political Activities

- BDW worked tirelessly during the 2020 Political Campaign to get Joe Biden and Kamala Harris elected along with other National, State and local Candidates on the Ballot by using phone banks, postcard addressing/mailings, texting, non-contact canvassing and poll watching. BDW held virtual Zoom Town Halls for our Democratic candidates and participated in three “Drive Through” Petition Signings for Democratic candidates.
- BDW participated in Voter Registration Drives, Rallies and March,
- BDW emails a weekly Newsletter that features Women Leaders, Candidates and Communities Activities.

Region 9 – Tri-County FDW President: Jody Rebarchak

The Tri-County Federation of Democratic Women is “Ah, Ha, Ha, Ha Stayin' Alive, Stayin' Alive.” While we haven't been able to meet in person, we are “Stayin' Alive” with meetings on Zoom. We've also recently launched our new website www.tricountyfdw.org. Our members are also staying connected with Facebook, emails, and phone calls.

with donations from our PAC, as well as campaign help from individual members. Patty Kim was successful in her bid for re-election to PA State Representative – HD 103. We congratulate all seven for stepping up and working diligently on their campaigns.

We had a prize drawing for “early bird” membership renewals in December. As a service project, we supported two causes. Members sponsored hats, handmade by TCFDW Secretary Jenni Savino, with a

monetary donation to the PFDW Scholarship Fund. The hats were then donated to the Harrisburg YWCA, which has facilities and programs to aid women, children, and veterans.

Our Zoom meetings have featured guest speakers on current notable topics. Jean Handley from Fair Districts Dauphin County updated us on the need for an independent citizen's commission to draw congressional districts, as well as the need for transparency in the process. At that time, the proposal to elect judges by geographic location was at the forefront. While that issue is now on the backburner, we must be vigilant and prepared to leap into action when the issue resurfaces.

PA Superior Court Justice Carolyn Nichols was our guest speaker in February for Black History Month. Judge Nichols stressed the importance of citizens staying involved with local government and holding elected officials accountable. Local laws and the policies of school boards affect us all.

For Women's History Month, we are looking forward to hearing from local author and political leader, Lois Herr, who will highlight her latest book *Women, Power, and AT&T: Winning Rights in the Workplace*.

At a recent Strategic Planning Session, members set club goals to increase and expand the diversity of club membership, increase member engagement, and build TCFDW's brand, reputation, influence, and presence in the region and state, and develop resources and a support network for our female Democratic candidates.

So we're "Stayin' alive" and hope you are too!

Written by: Jennifer Savino, Treasurer &
Liaison to PFDW

Stayin' alive



Region 10 – Lycoming County Democratic Women's Club

President: Mary Wright

The Lycoming Women Democrats were not able to hold their annual holiday celebration in December 2020, due to the pandemic. But the inability to get together in person did not prevent us from carrying out the most important tradition of the yearly get-together: giving to a local charity. The recipient selected this year by the Women Dems was the Central PA Food Bank.

Funds were raised in three ways: by having a bake sale, by selling Biden/Harris stuffed animal donkeys, and by holding an online basket raffle. A total of 23 baskets were donated for the raffle, and the winners were

picked on Facebook live. Proceeds from the three events totaled \$1000, and check for that amount was presented to Mindy Lyon of the Central PA Food Bank by three representatives of the Lycoming Women



Dems: Janice Shireman, treasurer; Mary Wright, president; and Sue Fulton, PAC treasurer

Regional Director: Harriet Ellenberger



**We raised
\$1,000**



Region 11 – Clinton County Democratic Women (CCDW)
President: Patricia Hancock

WE WERE BUSY GETTING SIGNATURES

The Clinton County Democratic Women have been working hard and in concert with the Clinton County Democratic Committee to have a successful petition season despite Covid-19 restrictions. Several women from our club were able to nearly fill petitions which resulted in Clinton County being a filing county for 4 judicial candidates. One of our members has also been assisting a Philadelphia Municipal judicial candidate; ensuring that her petition signatures are counted and her name will appear on the ballot.



Helping our sisters across the state has been very fulfilling and so important. Our club is also participating in planning the PFDW's Annual Convention at Lewisburg. We are very excited to have this opportunity and look forward to seeing so many great women leaders in person after this long Covid ordeal.

See you at our
93rd Annual Convention
At Lewisburg in August

Region 11 – Federation of Democratic Women of Indiana County

President: Nancy Westburg

Drive-Through Petition Signing And Food Drive Success!

Petition Signing and Food Drive:

Throughout Indiana County, five FDWIC outside stations were set up for Democrats to drive through to sign candidates' petitions and donate food. FDWIC collected 1853 pounds of food and \$470. The food and money were divided between

ICCAP and Chevy Chase Community Center.

Standing from left to right are Nancy Westburg, FDWIC President; Amanda Green Hawkins, judicial candidate for Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court; and Lynne Alvine, FDWIC Past President and organizer of the food drive and petition signing event.



***Invisible Hand* Documentary:** FDWIC hosted the free online showing (funded by Community Environmental Legal Defense

Fund) and Zoom discussion on the *Invisible Hand*, a documentary about the seven-year fight by residents of Grant Township, Indiana County, against a large corporation that is trying to turn their farms and neighborhood into toxic dumps.

Pre-Inaugural Celebration and Call to

Action: via Zoom, speakers and attendees shared information about the results of local Democratic women's recent organizing efforts and the challenges ahead. They also celebrated the election of President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris.

Women of the Year: Past president of the Federation of Democratic Women of Indiana County Lynne Alvine was named FDWIC Woman of the Year. Alvine, who also serves as regional director of the PFDW Region 11 was given the award for two years, 2020 and 2021, in recognition of her numerous contributions to the FDW and the local Democratic party

Holiday Card Project: Members sent holiday cards to residents at the county nursing home who were alone over the holidays.

Regional Director: Harriet Ellenberger

Region 13 – Ebensburg Area Federated Democratic Women's Club

President: Helen Whiteford

The highlight for our club was helping get-out-the-vote for the 2020 election. And the

payoff was sweet success when Joe Biden and Kamala Harris were elected as president

and madam vice president. It has been difficult to hold our usual meetings and events while the Covid pandemic was happening. However, we participated in an outdoor picnic last Fall with the Cambria County Democratic Committee. Please know that social distancing was followed, and club members enjoyed a barbecue with all the fixings. Money was raised for candidates with 50/50 and gift baskets. Our club looks forward to becoming more active when the

time is right. We wish good health to you and your loved ones. We are grateful for the way Governor Wolf has handled the pandemic to keep us safe. And we say a hardy thank-you to Harriet Ellenberger for the guidance she provided to us over the past few years.

Region 13 – Democratic Women of Westmoreland (WOW)

President: Phyllis Friend

The Democratic Women of Westmoreland continue to be an active entity in Westmoreland County and have actually gained new members while we've zoomed through this past year.

In December members participated in the post card writing campaign in support of Jon Ossoff and Reverend Warnock and helped them to victory in Georgia.

WOW answered the call from then President-Elect Biden and Vice-President -Elect Harris to participate in the MLK Day of Action. We mobilized and involved the Westmoreland County Democratic Committee and held a successful donation drive for the Westmoreland County Food Bank and the Welcome Home Shelter in Greensburg. During a drive thru donation effort, we collected a total of a ton of food and cleaning supplies for the Food Bank and the shelter, as well as \$2200 for the food bank and \$615 for the shelter. Our Democratic friends were thrilled to help with this endeavor. People, realizing the strong need for this during the

pandemic, thanked us for giving them the chance to donate.

We continue to pay attention to issues. WOW does weekly "action items" to let our elected officials know what we expect of them. And we are paying attention to the Fair Districts news.

The Women of Westmoreland started a book club to try to gain a better understanding of the events of the last 4 years. We've read *On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century* by Timothy Snyder and *How the South Won the Civil War* by Heather Cox Richardson. We are currently reading *Caste* by Isabelle Wilkerson.

We are excited to have so many excellent candidates step up to run for a variety of offices in Westmoreland County and in the state judicial races. We intend to make efforts to help them win their races.

Regional Director – Deanne McNally



Region 13 –The Democratic Women of Somerset County

President: Omayra Cintron Hause

The Democratic Women of Somerset County have been working hard to increase the blue sparkles of hope in a very red county. Although staying separate in a pandemic complicated our efforts, we pulled together to accomplish much more than we could have imagined since last Fall.

In September we organized a memorial candle light vigil for RBG attended by several hundred citizens in less than eight hours. Our speakers included our Democratic Chair, Shelly Kennell-Glessner, Joy Randall, Diane Saylor Daniels, Linda McElroy Thomas and Gillian Berloff.

The Fall general election was difficult and at the same time energizing. We were able to support the National and State tickets by making hundreds of phone calls and writing thousands of postcards. Locally we faced serious problems. Signs were stolen as soon as they were put up. There were nasty letters to the editor. Caravans paraded up and down our roads. People continually shouted at those of us with bumper stickers or signs on our cars. So local ad hoc groups formed with the expressed purpose of demonstrating that although small in number we were here and we were strong. Our group funded three full page ads in the local (not friendly) newspaper expressing why we thought the Biden-Harris ticket was best for America. There was a drive through Democratic yard sign give away. We came up with many clever solutions to the stolen signs issue and just kept putting them up. And putting them up. And putting them up. We joined with other progressives in our community to fund and put up ten full size billboards around our county. When one was defaced after only one day, we had it replaced and wrote letters to the editor and gave interviews to the media highlighting

the difficulties inherent in combating closed mindedness in a small community. The messages on the billboards all highlighted Democratic values and demonstrated that there are Democrats living in Somerset County and that we will not be intimidated. We contributed funds to our great local candidates. We also sent contributions to the Senate candidates in Georgia from our treasury.

Since January we have sponsored the development of a teen Democratic Club. The young women are meeting by Zoom and we have big hopes for their future. Our main hope is that by combining teens from the seven school districts in our rural county the group will be big enough to provide support to the young people who want to live by the values embodied by the Democratic Party. We are also offering to provide funding for any girl from Somerset County who is accepted to attend the ACLU Summer Activist Training.

This has been a long hard time. We have started the new year off with a new Strategic Plan and new officers. Our membership keeps increasing with new members every week.

We are here and we are strong!



Region 17 – Democratic Women of Fayette County
President: Melinda Thomas

Happy Spring! The Democratic Women of Fayette County installed new officers at their February meeting. Melinda Thomas was elected as President, Pam Newmeyer as Vice-President, Melissa Brant, as Secretary, and Trinette Cunningham as Treasurer. On February 20, the group held a Petition Signing Food Drive for female candidates in Fayette County. Petitions were circulated for Tracie Vargo for Fayette County Recorder of Deeds, Deb Apicella for Fayette County Treasurer, and Trinette Cunningham for Fayette County Jury Commissioner. We were able to collect many signatures for these candidates and collect a carload of donations for the local food bank! We continue to meet virtually via Zoom each month for our membership meetings. At our March meeting, we were able to have Judge Maria McClaughlin, candidate for Pennsylvania Supreme Court join us. At our

April meeting, Amanda Green-Hawkins, candidate for Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court, will be joining us. In May, we hope to have our first face-to-face meeting since the Pandemic began. We will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo at a local restaurant and enjoying fellowship with our members! To date, we have almost 40 dues-paying members and are growing each day! Our leadership team is currently focused on filling committee chair positions, getting our website up and running, and continuing to make our mark on Fayette County! We look forward to many more opportunities to support women running for office and leadership positions as our group continues to grow!



Congratulations to the new officers of the Democratic Women of Fayette County!

Melinda Thomas, President

Pam Newmeyer, Vice President

Melissa Brant, Secretary

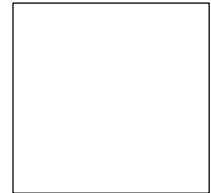
Trinette Cunningham, Treasurer



Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Inc.

7510 Briar Road

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19138



Today the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women consists of more than 1,600 members in local affiliates throughout the counties of the Commonwealth. These associations are grouped into 18 geographic regions, each coordinated by a Regional Director. The PFGW consists of a president, six vice-presidents, a treasurer, corresponding and recording secretaries and committee chairs.

Survey Submissions

Submission Deadline for next

Survey is

Fall of 2021