



THE SURVEY

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

Kathy Jordan, Editor

Star Brown, Business Manager

Fall 2021 Issue

SAVE THE DATE

Election Day

November 2, 2021

PFDW Board Meeting

November 13th, 2021
Harrisburg, PA

Spring Survey

April 1, 2022

**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.

“All Rise” To the Vote!



A Word from the New President

First, I want to thank the immediate Past President, ***Ruth Raglin***, for returning the Federation to a firm financial footing. She has a gift for raising money in auctions and events.

When I ran for President of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, I pledged to improve our relationships with elected officials. Almost all our statewide officials are male. When they explore whether to run, they tend to consult Trial Lawyers and Executives in major cities, and the leaders of the most powerful unions.

Who are the women they talk to? Why shouldn't we be those women?

Part of becoming those women is educating officials and candidates about how useful we already are to them. For instance, many of our clubs excel at circulating nominating petitions. Some clubs have impressive ***Get Out Our Vote*** skills. In fact, some clubs are a “ready to go” campaign committee for candidates they support.

One step in making more connections is inviting Democratic PA House Leader Joanna McCClinton to keynote our Outstanding Elected Democratic Women Brunch in November. She is the first woman ever to hold this position. You'll find more details about the event elsewhere in this Survey. Another step is the ***Get Out the Vote*** postcard drive, also described elsewhere in this Survey.

My own background is working on campaigns at all levels. As a young person I worked in politics in Washington, D.C., and in the U.S. Senate. My late husband talked me into coming back to Pennsylvania to marry him, and we both taught communication for Penn State until he died. Those two horrible years in medical hell with him sent me back into politics, to work for people who would give us health care reform. Now, seeing the damage the Trump years have done to the status of women, I want to work with you to put us in a better position in Pennsylvania.

Our new Vice Presidents will tell you about their plans in the next issue. They are: Lori Heffner, First Vice President, Helen Cook, Second Vice President, Sharon Newmane, Third Vice President, Shelley Glessner, Fourth Vice President, Colleen Gerrity, Fifth Vice President, and Shantale Galloway, Sixth Vice President.

The other members of the Executive Board are Joanne McGahagan, Corresponding Secretary, Melinda Thomas, Recording Secretary, and Roxanne Embick, Treasurer.

Thanks to them for agreeing to serve, and thanks to all of you for electing us. I look forward to working with and for all of you!

Sincerely,
Dianne Gregg, PFDW President



PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN, INC

2021 CENTURY CLUB

An Invitation to All Democrats

PFDW's Political Action Committee (PAC) is largely funded by the Century Club. Meeting the challenges of increased funding for more women candidates will be possible only through increased participation in the Century Club. Can you help us fund good Democratic candidates?

We sincerely hope that all PFDW Board members, women and men elected officials, individuals, clubs, and those who are financially able will renew or begin a CENTURY CLUB membership. This year, as we elect candidates across Pennsylvania, we extend our thanks for your continued support. If you have joined in the past, we invite you to join again this year. We welcome new members to join in order to assure the PFDW's continued financial support to WOMEN and STATEWIDE CANDIDATES. *We welcome male members to join in any category as Associate Members (with no voting rights in the PFDW).*

LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP

All members will receive an individual listing in the Convention Program Book

2021 PFDW Century Club Lapel Pin

DIAMOND CIRCLE - \$1,000

RUBY CIRCLE- \$500

EMERALD CIRCLE - \$250

TOPAZ - \$100

Fiscal Year is January 1 – December 1, 2021

Please respond by November 1, 2021

******* Please detach & return with your contribution *******

I am enclosing a contribution of \$_____ for membership in the 2021 PFDW
CENTURY CLUB.

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

****Checks payable to: PFDW-PAC and mailed to:**

SANDI VULCANO

PFDW Century Club Chair

531 Philadelphia Road

Easton, PA 18042.

Many thanks for your contribution.



The Judicial Elections: What's in it for You?

Submitted by Dianne Gregg, President, PFDW

If you've met them, you know our candidates are people who have done constructive things and are fun to be around. They all are judges now and don't need on the job training, and all are recommended or highly recommended by the PA Bar Association. Neither of those things are true of the Republican candidates.

I know some of you wonder, what's that got to do with you? Donald Trump, that's what.

Remember those 60+ lawsuits he filed to try to steal the presidential election? He only won two of them in the entire country—here in Pennsylvania, from our Commonwealth Court.

So who are the Republicans running for PA Supreme Court? Yes, Trump's guy, the President Judge of the Commonwealth Court. Our Supreme Court reversed those two Commonwealth Court decisions of his last year, so now he wants to go up to the Supreme Court. That can't be good for us.

What's Commonwealth Court? It's the one that handles cases involving government, and cases involving workers' rights.

Right now, the Republicans control it, 7-2. And it's the court of original jurisdiction about election law. Have you heard about all the personal data the Republicans in the Legislature want to collect for their investigation into Trump's claims of voter fraud? Why do they need your Social Security number, your driver's license number, and your email address on top of your birthday, home address, and party of registration?

Not to examine the last election—they know that was clean. They want you to run the risk of identity theft so they can poke around for some flimsy excuse to tighten voting

regulations; to make it harder to vote if you are young, old, a person of color, a person struggling with physical challenges, or in any other grouping that makes you more likely to vote democratic.

What to do to stop them?

First, make sure you tell everybody you know to vote for our **Judge Maria McLaughlin** for Supreme Court. Not voting this year is the same as voting for Trump. The Republicans have \$12 million in a dark money campaign account—that we know of. The \$3 million in ads they are running now are nothing to what will come. Will there be any truth in their ads? What do you think?

Second, help clean up Commonwealth court so we can get a fair shake there. If we elect our candidates **Judge Lori Dumas** and **Judge David Spurgeon**, we can change that court from 7-2 Republican to 5-4. The result would be a much better chance of a fair decision on all aspects of workers' rights, environmental policy, and redistricting—just for starters.

Third, the other court, Superior Court, handles family law and other disputes among individuals. Right now, that Court is 8-7



Republican. If we elect our **Judge Timika Lane**, Democrats will take control.

Who gets to be a judge impacts your life in ways far beyond what seems obvious at first glance. If you doubt it, look at the mess the U.S. Supreme Court is creating. All that's saving us in Pennsylvania is our own Supreme Court—where Democrats are in the majority.

For now...If you help us keep it that way.

This isn't an off year election. The winners this year will protect your rights, or erode them. Please don't let the Republicans turn Pennsylvania into Texas. Please do everything you can to help elect our four judges. You'll never be sorry you stood up for democracy.

**Protect
your rights!**

Vote for all 4
Democrats for
state judge!

SUPREME COURT

JUDGE **Maria McLaughlin**

SUPERIOR COURT

JUDGE **Timika Lane**

COMMONWEALTH COURT

JUDGE **Lori Dumas**

JUDGE **David Spurgeon**

**ALL RISE
TO THE
VOTE**



PENNSYLVANIA'S DREAM TEAM



Judge Maria McLaughlin

Judge Maria McLaughlin's unmatched work ethic shows in her flawless record; in ten years as a judge, none following a divorce. She passes along that none of her decisions ever have been reversed on appeal. The first in her family to go to college, she worked her way through school, then rose in the Philadelphia D.A.'s office to become section chief protecting children while raising her two boys as a single mother; the example set by her parents of helping those in need to build constructive lives in her service on and off the bench.

Judge Timika Lane

For seven years, Judge Timika Lane has served as a Judge on the Court of Common Pleas. As the only Judge in the race for PA Superior Court, Judge Lane is the experienced judge we need on this important statewide court. Beyond the bench, Judge Lane's working class roots, and her record of service as a teacher, child advocate, public defender, and Executive Director of the PA Senate State Government Committee give her the perspective to understand the impact her decisions will have on Pennsylvanians every day. Judge Lane needs your help to flip the Superior Court from Red to Blue.

Judge David Spurgeon

Since 2016, Judge David Spurgeon has been a trial judge in Allegheny County hearing cases involving families and children. Named a National Judicial Fellow for his judicial leadership, Spurgeon is a nationally recognized expert in domestic violence. He previously spent 19 years as a trial lawyer and lead prosecutor for cases involving family violence. Spurgeon was integral in the creation and supervision of treatment courts in Allegheny County. The first in his family to attend college/law school, he is the only candidate rated "Highly Recommended" by the PBA. Spurgeon also teaches as an adjunct law professor at Duquesne Law School.

Judge Lori Dumas

The Court can't earn public trust if it is viewed as a citadel of privilege. How can there be trust if there is no equity at all levels of the court? Women judges offer a lived experience, a more comprehensive and empathetic perspective, their rulings take into account the consequences to real people, not just the judicial action. Judge Dumas has 19 years of this lived experience in Civil, Criminal, and Family Court. She brings judicial mastery and diverse perspectives to the court and that's not just good for women, but for all people. And it is what is absolutely necessary to restore trust and balance to the application of the rule of law in this very important Court.

National Federation of Democratic Women
First Vice President: Susan Rutt

It was an honor to be elected First Vice President of the National Federation of Democratic Women's Convention in June.

Other officers elected were: President Gail Buckner of Georgia; Second Vice President Barbara Faison of North Carolina; Third Vice President Gini Ballou of Idaho; Fourth Vice President Debi Thompson of Oklahoma; Fifth Vice President Christine Pelosi of California; Recording Secretary Peggy Stepp of Missouri; Treasurer Dorinda White of Washington, D.C.; Eastern Regional Director Irmgard Pagan of Puerto Rico.

Appointed positions include Corresponding Secretary Dorothy Adams of Missouri and Parliamentarian Wanda Ashley of Arkansas. Now in my ninth year on the NFDW Board as Regional Director, Treasurer, Second Vice President and currently as First Vice President, it is a privilege to continue serving with outstanding leaders from all across the country.

Due to COVID, the NFDW was unable to hold in-person in 2020 and 2021 such as: Women in Blue, National Conventions fall board meetings. With the exception of Women in Blue 2020, all events were offered electronically. We are hoping to hold Women in Blue in Washington, and our 2022 convention in New Orleans in June.

On August 31, the NFDW PAC held a virtual event. Participants included Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Hillary Clinton, Senator Amy Klobachar, and Representative Jahanna Hayes. I had the pleasure of introducing a presentation by Luci Baines Johnson, daughter of the late President Lyndon Johnson.

For the latest news: www.nfdw.com



Congratulations to All Elected in 2021!



The 2021 Outstanding Elected Democratic Women's Brunch



The OEDW Brunch is on-track for **Sunday, November 14**, held at the Best Western Premier Hotel, 800 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, 17111. This is one of the most exciting events of the year where the PFDW honors current elected women from across the commonwealth. Judge Maria McLaughlin is our OEDW of the Year and Leader Joanna McClinton is the Keynote Speaker. Come brunch with the best! Doors open at 10 for the auction, brunch at 11, and the program begins at noon.

Hotel rooms at the Best Western are available at a discounted rate of **\$84.95** through October 15. Book your reservation early. Call (717) 561-2800, and mention PFDW. Don't miss out! The OEDW Brunch is a fundraiser for our PAC.

If you would like to be a part of the OEDW Brunch committee, we could use your help. Please email Deanne McNally dajanko@comcast.net or Susan Rutt susanrutt@aol.com, the OEDW Brunch Chairs. We need sponsors for this event.

Brunch Tickets

Buy your advanced OEDW Brunch tickets on-line:

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5255533>

Or write a check to PFDW PAC for \$50, mail to: Charlene Doyle, 127 R Bates Patch Rd., Greenfield Township, PA 18407

Table reservations should be received by November 3.

Please note: Eight people or less seated per table.

WWW.PAFDW.ORG
PENNSYLVANIA
FEDERATION OF
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN



2021
OUTSTANDING ELECTED
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S BRUNCH
Sunday, November 14th, Harrisburg

Program Advertisement Form

Please mark appropriate space:

Back Cover	\$250.00 _____	Full Page (7 ½ x 4 ½)	\$125.00 _____
Inside Front Cover	\$225.00 _____	Half Page (3 ½ x 4 ½)	\$ 65.00 _____
Inside Back Cover	\$225.00 _____	Quarter Page (3 ½ x 1 ¾)	\$ 40.00 _____

Prices Include Color and B&W

Ads and payment must be received by October 31st

Authorized Signature

Total Enclosed

Phone Number including Area Code

Person Securing Ad

Home\Business Address

Email Address

Send the OEDW Brunch Ad Copy to Roxanne at rembick@gmail.com

Please Make Checks Payable to **PFDW PAC** Mail Payment Check to: Roxanne Embick
438 Pine Mountain Road, Lock Haven, PA 17745 Roxanne can be reached at 570-660-1907

PFDW SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The scholarship luncheon at this year's annual convention was bitter sweet. It was also the first time the Woman of the Year Award and a scholarship award merged together in honor and memory of one of our beloved members. Before her death in the spring, Eileen Belanger was nominated by her club to be Woman of the Year. Unfortunately, her death preceded our convention. The donations received for her nomination were enough to award a scholarship in her name.



That award was given to Scarlett Spager, a student, majoring in Mass Communications with a minor in history at Kings College in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Scarlett was recommended by the Lackawanna FDW. Scarlett is dedicated to speaking her truth which happens to align with the principles of the Democratic Party. It was a great pleasure to have Eileen's husband and a representative from her local club to present the award.



A scholarship in memory of Marianne McManus was awarded to Olivia Mitchell. Olivia is pursuing a degree in Economics by attending Barnard College at Columbia University. She is planning a teaching career. While in high school Olivia and several friends formed Bucks Students Demand Action, dedicated with many activities to stopping gun violence. Olivia is from Ivyland in Bucks County.



Leah Mullery of Nanticoke, PA, a student at Lehigh University majoring in Biology, received a PFDW scholarship. She is the daughter of PA Representative, Gerald Mullery. She hopes to be a biologist whose responsibilities include protecting and managing wildlife. As a member of Lehigh's field hockey team she was named an "Unsung Hero" for her team play. She is described as a talented writer and a critical thinker.

MORE EILEEN BELANGER ARE ON THE HORIZON!

The scholarship fund has received a very generous donation. Rick Heller, a dear family friend of the Belangers, has donated \$5,000 to be used to award scholarships in memory of Eileen. It is his hope that his gift will inspire others to fight as hard as Eileen did to make this world a better place. He spoke extensively of Eileen's work and expertise on environmental issues. We can be very proud that Eileen chose to work so hard for PFDW and the Democratic Party.

Jenni Savino is continuing to make hats with sales that benefit the scholarship fund. There will be new colors meant to target sports teams and holidays. The cost for each hat is \$10 which goes in total to the scholarship fund. She will have them available at our November board meeting.

Any club or individual donations checks should be made out to PFDW Scholarship Fund and sent to:

Jennifer Savino
6627 Terrace Way Apt.B
Harrisburg, PA 17111



Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women



Memorial Scholarship Award Application Requirements

WITH THIS APPLICATION SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING

I A ONE PAGE ESSAY EXPLAINING

- Your need for the scholarship
- Your professional goals
- Your Democratic Party activities
- 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

IV A SEALED OFFICAL TRANSCRIPT FROM YOUR COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR

All documents must be post marked by
April 1st to be considered for a scholarship

Eligibility:

Any Pennsylvania woman in her sophomore or junior class of an accredited college or university in a four year undergraduate degree program. Be in good academic standing and be a registered Democratic voter. Applicants 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 convention.

NAME OF APPLICANT:

HOME
ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

NAME OF COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY:

PLACE REGISTERED TO VOTE:

MAJOR / MINOR

ACTIVITIES

Use the address below for all mailings.
Michelle Price= PFDW Scholarship Chair
462 W Grant Street Easton , PA 18042

For more information 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. Because of the Pandemic, the awards were for 2020 and 2021.

The winners of the Woman of the Year were announced at the PFDW Convention on Saturday, August 14, 2021.



Eileen Belanger from the Democratic Women's Club of Delaware County was chosen. Eileen passed in June and her award was presented to her husband, Bill Belanger. Eileen was a wonderful woman who worked hard for her county and the PFDW.

2020 Woman of the Year



Joanne McGahagan from Blair County Democratic Women was also chosen. Joanne is a hard worker for her club. She has served as Recording Secretary for the PFDW. Joanne is always ready to help and make you feel welcome.

2021 Woman of the Year

Eileen and Joanne were joined by five other women as nominees. It was gratifying to read how all of these women were held in high esteem for their tireless work on behalf of the Democrat party and their clubs. This year's voting was the highest we have had in a long time. We also raised the most ever for the Scholarship fund.

I would like to thank everyone who participated. I hope this trend continues. It is never too early to think about next year's nominees. This award is given to a woman chosen by her peers. You cannot nominate yourself. It is kept secret from the nominees. The look of surprise is always fun as the name is revealed. A contribution to the Scholarship fund is encouraged, but is not necessary to vote.

A completed nomination form with attached resume must be submitted for consideration by June 1, 2022.

WOMEN OF THE YEAR

2021 – Joanne McGahagan	2007 – Dr. Michele Bortner Sellitto
2020 – Eileen Belanger	2006 – Ruth Raglin
2019 – Dianne Gregg	2005 – Dolores “Dee” J. McAllister
2018 – Tracey Lynn Arriola	2004 – Joan Kelley
2017 – Kaija Farber	2003 – Catherine Baker Knoll
2016 – Kathy Huggins	2003 – Rosalie Sim
2015 – Sandi Vulcano	2002 – Shirley Protzman
2014 – Donna Frank	2001 – Patsy Hebor
2013 – Charlene Doyle	2000 – Martha Smith
2012 – Susan Stoltzfus	1999 – Winnie James
2011 – Dorothy Gallagher	1998 – Mary Uehlein
2010 – Helen Whiteford	1997 – Peg Hain
2009 – Harriet Eshleman	1996 – Anna Abajace
2009 – Janet Spleen	1996 – Shirley Wanamaker
2008 – Joanne Messenlehner	

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

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, 2022 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
President: Adrian Crowder and Gwen Boykin



As 2021 draws to a close, the Black Democratic Women of Montgomery County is adjusting to the post pandemic new normal. We continue to meet virtually, and unfortunately, our fundraising events have been limited due to social distancing. For the November Election, we are supporting our club member A. Nicole Phillips as she runs for Judge in the Court of Common Pleas and others running for local and statewide offices.

We are canvassing neighborhoods, sending postcards and making phone calls.



Our club member and Ambler Borough Councilwoman, Jennifer Henderson, is leading the efforts to build the Ambler Community Garden. This project was awarded \$45K and was amongst 23 initiatives in Montgomery County to improve infrastructure and sustainability.



In September, we had an information exchange session with Professor Wendy Greene, a Drexel University Law Professor, trailblazing U.S. Anti-Discrimination Law Scholar, Teacher and advocate, who explained the C.R.O.W.N. Act and the reasons behind the need for a law that prohibits race-based hair discrimination due to the texture of hair or protective hair styles. We will be aligning with State Representative Joanna McClinton to propel passage of this law in Pennsylvania.



Lastly, as we approach 2022, another focus of our Club will be flipping an open U.S. Senate seat, and getting our club member Dr. Val Arkoosh elected as the first woman in Pennsylvania to the Senate.

Regional Director: Amanda Hammock

Region 1 – Women’s Democratic Club of Delaware County
President: Mylisa Himmons

“Women, Moving Forward”

WDCDC was able to transition and continue progressing the business of the organization while keeping its members safe during the unprecedented pandemic. Monthly meetings were held via zoom, and focused on political changes and challenges faced throughout the county, and country.

WDCDC has consistently held regular meetings, candidate forums, fundraisers, and a candidate educational series. The **WDCDC**’s virtual candidate educational series, *Learn 2 Lead* series consisted of three thirty-minute sessions that helped elevate first-time candidates or future candidates’ drive to journey to victory throughout the election process.

In April (2021), the **WDCDC** held its 1st virtual Delco Derby fundraiser, raising funds to support candidates and a scholarship that offered support to young women and future candidates throughout Delaware County.

WDCDC lost a key member this year, Eileen Belanger who was our PFDW representative, mentor, and friend to all that knew her. Her influence on the organization will live on as they see her visions as determination.

WDCDC started its 2021 -2022 year on a high note, hosting their fall fundraiser at a local restaurant in Delaware County, outdoors, for **WDCDC** members, supporters, and local candidates. This was the first in-person event **WDCDC** has held since the start of the pandemic.

At this event, President Himmons will be presenting donations to the candidates. The club’s theme is “Women, moving forward” and **WDCDC** is headed in the right direction.

Amanda Hammock, Regional Director



1st In-Person Event

Local restaurant in Delaware County

Fall Fundraiser

Region 2

Concerned Women on the Move President: Kathryn Huggins

What a wonderful convention this year! I really enjoyed myself. Ms. Denise Tucker, our newest member shared a room with me, and she showed us how to truly have fun with line dancing. We look forward to her attendance at other events as well.

Our club is getting ready for the upcoming Election that takes place on November 2nd. We hard to fight to get in the four State-wide Candidates.

Looking forward to Brunch on November 14th, 2021. We hope Philly can bring in a BIG crowd to the Brunch!

Submitted by Kathy Huggins



Kathryn, Judy,
Hon. L. Dumas,
Hon. McLaughlin



l-r K. Huggins,
Hon T. Lane



l-r L. Fields, Hon L.
Dumas, K. Huggins

Region 2 – Philadelphia Democratic Women Caucus

President: Shantale Galloway

Philadelphia Democratic Women Caucus believes that if you invest in the community, the community can become stronger to work together. Our club has been focused on creating ideas for bringing more education about how the court systems work, and why it's important for this upcoming election. We will be hosting a Judges forum via Zoom this month.

PDWC co-hosted a Black Entrepreneur Expo event with Hafeezah Vegan Creations in Jefferson Square Park, Philadelphia. Hafeezah Vegan Creations donated a vegan lunch for all who attended, by giving free samples of vegan cuisine. Small black businesses were able to be supported. Our club was able to give insight about who we are, what we do and what it means to be part of the Federation.



The pandemic restricted our graduating class of 2020 from walking down the aisle. PDWC hosted a Commencement Ceremony for 2021 Graduates at Jefferson Square Park in Philadelphia. Tyh'iana Tomlin, Valedictorian, will be attending Howard University, and Tyler Oliver has a full scholarship in Science, and will be attending Neumann University. Tyh'iana and Tyler had the highest GPA. To honor them PDWC commissioned an artist, E. Bennet Art to create painted portraits of them.

Congratulations to our PDWC President, Shantale Galloway, on becoming 6th Vice President of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women! Shantale is a driving force for our club, and she will be an asset to the Federation.

Regional Director: Barbara Carroll

Vote! Dream Team Judges: [Lori Dumas](#), [Timika Lane](#), [Maria McLaughlin](#), [David Spurgeon](#)

Region 2 – West Oak Lane Federation of Democratic Women
President: Ruth Raglin

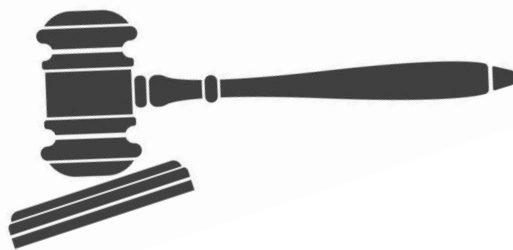
Congratulations to our new officers!

Our club was happy to attend our PFDW 93rd annual convention in Lewisburg, PA. The convention was an overwhelming success and we thank Region 10 for hosting. We had five members attend from our club and a total of 24 members from Philadelphia, **GO PHILLY!!**

Regional Director: Barbara Carroll

Remember to VOTE November 2nd!

“All Rise”
To the Vote!



Region 4 – Lackawanna County Federation of Democratic Women

President: Patti Reider



President Patti Reider, 1st VP Lisa Barrett, Recording Secretary Sharon Quinn, Corresponding Secretary Susan Connors, Treasurer Charlene Doyle and PAC Treasurer Elizabeth Slovenkai.

The LCFDW is happy to be able to meet again!

Like so many others, we have been meeting on Zoom. We have elected new officers, and we are pleased to welcome President Patti Reider, 1st VP Lisa Barrett, Recording Secretary Sharon Quinn, Corresponding Secretary Susan Connors, Treasurer Charlene Doyle and PAC Treasurer Elizabeth Slovenkai.

Thank you, Mary Kate Donahue for serving as President. You pulled us through a tough time.

Members Charlene Doyle, Susan Notarianni, Colleen Gerrity, and Mary Ann Kapacs attended the PFDW Convention in Lewisburg. They were joined by LCDW President, Polly Delaney. We all had a wonderful time representing Region 4. It was

a great convention and seeing everyone was wonderful!

We would like to wish Luzerne County Democratic Women a very **“Happy**



Birthday!” They celebrated **4** years. The birthday party was fun, and they have an exciting year ahead.

We are looking forward to a healthy, safe year for everyone!

Regional Director: Mary Ann Kapacs

Region 4 – Luzerne County Democratic Women

President: Polly Delaney

2021 is Flying By!

The year began with a "*drive up*" petition signing which was very successful. Our in-person get together last May had our first scholarship presentation!

The PFDW Convention in Lewisburg was fun. Quality time with the Lackawanna Federation members is always special. The LCDW celebrated their 4th birthday in September. President Ruth Raglin was unable to attend. President Raglin and Regional director Mary Ann Kapacs were the driving force to see LCDW chartered. Mary Ann Kapacs was able to attend the celebration.

Our member **Kristi Skok** (currently attending



Villanova Law School) received the \$1,000.00 check.

Pictured above with the committee members are: Nancy Casagrande (chair), Joanne Strahura, Marge Strahura, Kristi Skok, Judith Benyo and Dan Skok (dad).

The birthday celebration chaired by the Projects Committee (Carin Pientka, Kathleen Hannon and Ruth Pasavage) raised \$1,010.00 for *Wreaths Across America* with 25 raffle

baskets (100 wreaths for Indiantown Gap). December will be a poinsettia sale to benefit the local Veterans hospital.

The 2022 quilt made and donated by member Cindy Taylor was shown, and the Americana queen size quilt will go home with a lucky winner next May. The LCDW members addressed postcards for local judge candidates and in August for the four State Judge candidates!

LCDW members work to Save Democracy and look forward to 2022! We don't agonize. We organize!

“Bring it on GOP!”

Regional Director:
MaryAnn Kapacs

Region 5 – Wyoming County Democratic Women’s Society

President: Sharon Neumane

Like most of you, we in Wyoming County have either canceled or adjusted events due to Covid and the variance. Member Nancy Thayer noticed that a Tunkhannock beatification area was no longer being maintained. Nancy received permission for our Society to take over the care of this garden. She and several members had the garden ready by Tunkhannock’s Founder’s Day in June.

We also noticed an ‘In Loving Memory’ garden for families who



have lost children needing attention. This garden was originally installed by Peg

Ball and her husband Mayor Norm Ball in memory of their lost son, Norm Jr. Peg is one

of our founding members and has held just about every office. Norm passed away 2 years ago, and Peg is not in the best of health. We surprised Peg with a restored garden and had our first meeting there.

We have been supporting our Democratic District Attorney, Jeff Mitchell.

Finally, it is with a heavy heart that I mention the loss of Sandy Vieczorek. Sandy was a

long-time member who loved to talk politics! Sandy was an active member of our group. She also was a driving force in the restoration of the Dietrick Theater/Scranton Cultural Center, the Wyoming County Cares, and the Wyoming County Drug Treatment Court. A bright light has gone out but will never be forgotten.

Regional Director: Nadia Villanueva

Region 7 – Adams County Federation of Democratic Women

President: Helen Cook

We would like to give a **HUGE** thank you to our former President Ruth Raglin, who worked tirelessly during her four (5) years in office. Ruth left office and left us with a great bank account.

Congratulations to Dianne Gregg along with the entire executive committee. I look forward to working with the officers and the board over the next two years.

Dona Maguire, our past Vice President moved out of state to MD. Dona is going to be missed in Adams County, and will remain a member of the ACFDW. At the end of July we held a going away and thank you lunch for Dona, due to the move by Dona we elected a new Vice President, Denise Van Essen, and our new Secretary is Faith Peterson.

Harriet Ellenberger for taking the time to join us at C&D Grill, New Oxford, PA.

We will be sending out our appeal letters to sponsor our Christmas families in several weeks, and our hope is to make a few middle school students have a great Christmas. We will be dropping Lit for all our Judges in October as we are currently waiting on our lit bags to arrive. We all are looking forward to the OEWOTY November 14th, 2021.



Regional Director: Linda Woleslage

Region 8 – Berks Democratic Women

President: Linda Woleslagle

It's been an exciting year that motivated us into learning new technology

(i.e. – Zoom, Mail Chimp, etc.).

Our creative and courageous leaders have taken on many challenging activities. They have participated in many zoom trainings (i.e. leadership organizing, diversity training, fundraising). Also, we participated in in-person training (i.e. – “How to pack knife and bullet wounds using cotton gauze and how to apply a tourniquet to stop bleeding out”).

Starting this past February, our leaders participated in our own “Candidate Tuesday Zoom Meetings” which is a think tank and support group for our local Democrat Candidates. We supported our candidates through email advertising of their fund-raising events, post card writing, phone banking and canvassing.

Our dynamic members participated in Community Rallies, Tabling Events and Fund-raising Activities, Rallies for Voting Rights, Stop Immigrant Detention and freedom of choice for all women and minority regarding health care and abortion. Community

Tabling at “One Love” carwash for cancer survivors, “One Love” project for students’ back to school supplies, Zion Food Drive, Berks Diversity Festival. Our leaders were involved in Fund-raising for Democratic Candidates, Planned Parenthood, Reading - Berks Libraries and the Greater Reading Berks PAC.

We participated in our first “in-person” Berks Democratic Women meeting on September 23th. This meeting featured Kadida Kenner – Founder & CEO of the “New Pennsylvania Project”.

Regional Director – Linda Woleslagle

The photo of our first “in-person” meeting featuring Kadida Kenner:



Region 8 – Northampton County Council of Democratic Women

President: Lori Vargo Heffner

Northampton County Council of Democratic Women has had a busy year!

Adapting to COVID challenges, we started off with a Zoom Cocktails & Candidates Forum in February 2021. It was a fun night for all!

In July we held a “Sip and Paint” fundraiser at Color Me Mine to raise money to support our local candidates. \$2500 was raised and given to fund coordinated campaign literature for fall distribution. Judge Candidates Timika Lane, Lori Dumas & David Spurgeon were all in attendance, as well as Linda Woleslagle, our Region 8 Director.

We have been writing postcards, canvassing, and attending fundraisers for all local candidates.

Several women attended the fundraiser for County Council and Chapter President Lori Vargo Heffner on September 30th, which was attended by Judges Maria McLaughlin & Timika Lane, and State Senator Lisa Boscola.



We will work diligently until November 2nd to get all of our Democratic Candidates elected!

Regional Director – Linda Woleslagle

**All Rise
To the Vote**

Region 9 – Tri-County Federation Democratic Women

President: Karen Anderson

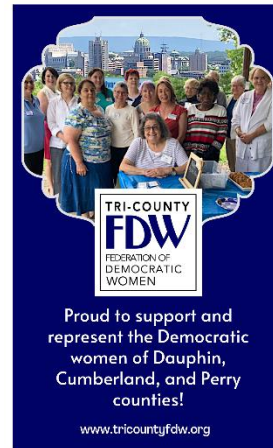
After what seemed like endless Zoom meetings, club members finally met in-person at beautiful Negley Park overlooking the Susquehanna River with views of Harrisburg and our state Capitol. We treated ourselves with a potluck dessert buffet.

Three of our members are running for local offices. **LaTasha Williams** is seeking the opportunity to be a Dauphin County judge. She is currently a legislative research

analyst for State Representative Harold James. She earned her degree in law at Widener University Commonwealth Law School in Harrisburg. She has a wealth of experience and we trust that she will be an excellent judge. **Marian Urrutia** seeks to be a Magisterial District Judge. She wants to “reassure faith in the justice system by providing fair and equal justice to ALL.” Her background is in Criminal Justice. **Karen Overly Smith** is running for Upper Allen

Twp. Board of Commissioners. She is running “as a skilled woman with leadership qualities”. We are proud to support these remarkable women with a donation from our PAC.

We are looking forward to fall meetings which will focus on the biennial officer election for our club and some reorganization. Plans are in the works for a PAC fund raiser after the New Year.



Region 9 – Women’s Democratic Club of Franklin County

President: Susan Spicka

Our Club has worked hard to keep in contact with members through emails, social media, Zoom meetings and an outdoor gathering. Our 2021 Annual Membership Appeal was extremely successful, with a record 109 new and returning members.

Three of our club members reside on the Chambersburg Borough Council — Barb Beattie, Kathy Leedy, and Alicia Elia, elected Jan. 2020 as the first-ever woman president in the town's 216-year history! We’re hoping Nov. ballot candidate, Heidi Frye, will soon join this team of progressive women. Incumbent Beattie and Frye join a full slate of Democratic challengers battling to keep the Borough leaning blue in a red county.



as a meet-and-greet for Chambersburg mayoral candidate, Marvin Worthy. October plans include supporting a letter mailing to

“Dem & Other” constituents, plus distributions of contactless door hangers. With fewer opportunities for in-person events for this election cycle, the club instead offered local candidates financial support to help with their campaign expenses.

The annual tradition of awarding the Ethel Ogle Scholarship to a student pursuing a degree in Government, Political Science, or History continued this year. With this being the Club’s 90th Anniversary, a doubled financial amount of \$1000 was awarded.

The Fair Districts PA, Franklin County Coordinator, spoke at one of our Zoom meetings, and WDCFC Members contributed to the addressing and mailing of over 1600 postcards to PA Legislators.

Region 11 – Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women United
County: Centre
President: Elaine Prestia

Our Club is comprised of many unique diverse women with many different life experiences.

We come together to bring those experiences and ideas to develop into a goal...to help elect female candidates.

But in this day and age, we are not just limited to helping females as we need qualified democrats. Our members are committed to helping in any way they can and are always brainstorming for new ways.

Fundraising, holding events, writing postcard campaigns, walking precincts, handing out campaign literature, holding coffee's and inviting speakers and/or candidates to converse with those with questions.

Getting people together in these times is hard but we have learned that having Zoom meetings is a plus. Keeping in contact, staying motivated and informed is what we are doing.

Regional Director: Lynne Alvine

Region 11 – Federation of Democratic Women of Indiana County
President: Nancy Westburg

The Federation of Democratic Women of Indiana County held a social meeting at the Ungrapeful Winery in Blairsville in July. Two club members were recognized for their contributions to Democratic initiatives and values. Indiana County Commissioner Sherene Hess (left photo) received the Outstanding Elected Woman of Indiana County award. Lynne Alvine (right photo), Past President and Regional Director of PFDW Region 11, received the award as FDWIC Woman of the Years 2020, 2021. FDWIC President Nancy Westburg presented both awards.

Regional Director: Lynne Alvine



Region 13 – Democratic Women of Westmoreland (WOW)

President: Phyllis Friend

We participate in contacting elected officials with our weekly action items. One of our members, Joanne Garing, writes the action items weekly with members from her local Dem club and we promote them to our WOW members.

WOW had a successful clothing drive for Dress for Success, a not-for-profit organization that empowers women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and helps women thrive in work and in life. We were finally able to celebrate our 2020 Woman of the Year, Carol Francese, at a successful banquet at Gianellis's in Greensburg.

Our WOW Book Club remains interested in reading books that help explain current events. Our members thought the book, *After You Vote* would be a valuable tool for women (or anyone) who had ambition to run for office. We purchased four books for a local library, the Westmoreland Dem's headquarters, a local high school club, and the Pitt Greensburg campus in the hopes that the readers would learn more about civics and

understand how to be informed in order to help our elected representatives.



The book we are currently reading is *Bring the War Home*, which according to Terry Gross from Fresh Air "Helps explain how we got to today's alt-right."

At the present time, members are writing postcards for Maria McLaughlin for PA. We are aware of the importance of the upcoming judicial races on November 2.

Regional Director – Deanne McNally

Region 13 –The Democratic Women of Somerset County

President: Paula Shively

We spent the Summer planning a major event, but our members also continued to support our community outreach project of the local homeless center, participated in local activities for Fair Districts Pa, vigorously supported our local candidates for county offices, enjoyed our regular monthly meetings and shared

information with local liberal women's groups.

The picnic was quite an undertaking for our relatively new grassroots group. We wanted an event that would raise money for our local candidates/members for re-election to Prothonotary and County Treasurer. But, we also wanted the event to be a rallying point for Democrats. We wanted Democrats to

renew/establish connections that would carry us into a better future.

Our strategic plan for 2021 was to create events that would increase the contacts between Democrats. One of the difficulties of an effective organization in a rural, conservative county is that people feel isolated and alone when their views and beliefs are different from the values of their neighbors and families.

Four of the major contenders for the Senate seats to be vacated, all of the judicial candidates and two representatives of candidates attended with family members and staff. A number of Pa. Dems staff came. PFDW was well represented. We are able to donate over \$700 to EACH of our local candidates.

You are invited to our
Christmas Party on
December 11th!

Come!



We know how to
party!!!

Regional Director: Deanne McNeally

Capturing Our Event!



Region 17 – Brownsville Democratic Club
President: Nicki Todaro

THIS IS WHAT WE DO!

- ❖ Have regular meetings once a month.
- ❖ Fundraising for our club.
- ❖ Invite candidates to speak at our meetings
- ❖ Get the word out for who's running for elections.
- ❖ Have a Facebook page
- ❖ Strategize to recruit new members.

Regional Director: Seyde Vodga Hovis

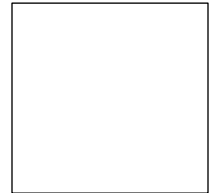
Get Out the Vote!



Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Inc.

P.O. Box 23773

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19143



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

Spring of 2022