



THE SURVEY

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

Kathy Jordan, Editor

Star Brown, Business Manager

Fall 2023 Issue

SAVE THE DATE

Election Day

November 7th, 2023

Next Board Meeting

December 2, 2023

& 2024 Convention

TBD

Spring Survey

March 2024

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.

WE ARE WOMEN AND WE ARE WINNIN'... **PENNSY STYLE**



We Can Do It!

President's Message

There are so many beautiful moments that I observed at this year's annual convention. We elected new officers, shared ideas, celebrated women who have dedicated 50+ years to the Federation and were reminded to acknowledge and respect our differences from a brilliant panel of leaders from across the state. We honored 4 new scholarship winners & honored Jennifer Savino as our Woman of the Year for her outstanding dedication and service to our organization. The gathering of dynamic Democratic women from across the state, converging on Harrisburg with energy and enthusiasm was inspiring.

Whether we are hearing from new dynamic voices, such as our Scholarship winners or new members, or from our seasoned, spicy elders, the collaboration and strength of women cannot be ignored. We debate, we laugh, we cry, we celebrate, we plan, we achieve – together in sisterhood. I also welcome the new regional directors who have been selected as well as those board members who are returning to help carry the message across the state.



Looking forward to 2024, we will have to opportunity to create new goals and vision for the Federation in addition to continuing some long-standing traditions. We need support to raise funds for the 2024 slate of candidates. Please remember to join our Century Club and plan now for the Outstanding Elected Women's Brunch in April. I am thrilled to have a newly elected slate of officers who are also dedicated and committed to working on the behalf of creating a dynamic and vibrant organization. I hope that we can regroup quickly after the election and focus our energies on the development of our own organization. I am proud and honored to serve you as the newly elected president of the Federation. I am grateful to all of you for the trust and faith that you have placed in me, and I take that trust as a commitment to work for you and the good of all in the state of Pennsylvania.

Gratefully yours,

Lori Vargo Heffner
Lori Vargo Heffner

PFDW Convention

We are excited to provide an update on the 95th PFDW Annual Convention that took place in Harrisburg, PA. It was an incredible event filled with inspiration, knowledge, and unity, and we want to express our gratitude to everyone who made it possible.

Our convention featured an impressive lineup of speakers, including statewide judicial candidates and guest speakers running for statewide office. Their insights and perspectives on important political issues added tremendous value to our convention, and we are thankful for their participation.

A special thank you goes out to Shamaine Daniels, 10th District Congressional Candidate, and Harrisburg Mayor, Wanda Williams, for gracing us with their presence and delivering a warm welcome at our Friday dinner. Your contributions made the evening truly special.

We are thrilled to announce the recipients of our scholarship awards. Congratulations to the four scholarship winners! Your dedication to the Democratic Party's future is incredibly promising, and we are excited to see the positive impact you will make.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to Dawn Chavous for her generous support, matching the funds raised by Christina and Joanne McGahagan for the scholarship fund. Your generosity ensures that aspiring leaders have the resources they need to succeed.

The Saturday afternoon session, "Racism, Overt and Implicit, and Its Impact," was a profound experience that provided attendees with valuable insights and sparked essential conversations. It was a reminder of the importance of addressing these issues to build a more inclusive and equitable society.

One of the highlights of the convention was the presentation of the Woman of the Year award to Jenny Savino, a truly deserving recipient. Her leadership within the Democratic Party is commendable, and we were honored to recognize her contributions.

We cannot forget the incredible vocal performances by Sonya Carroll and Star Brown. Their talent and energy not only entertained us but also motivated and set the perfect tone for our conference.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who donated and purchased tickets for the baskets. Your generosity helps support our ongoing efforts and initiatives, and we deeply appreciate your contributions.

The success of this convention was truly a team effort, and we thank all the individuals who played a part in making it happen. We are already looking forward to seeing everyone next year for another inspiring gathering.

Lastly, always remember that Your Vote is Your Voice. Let's continue to use our voices through the power of our votes to shape a better future for our community and our country.

With gratitude and enthusiasm,

Helen Cook





PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN, INC

2024 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

2024 PFDW Century Club Lapel Pin

DIAMOND CIRCLE - \$1,000

RUBY CIRCLE - \$500

EMERALD CIRCLE - \$250

TOPAZ CIRCLE - \$100

Fiscal Year is January 1 – December 1, 2024

Please respond by November 1, 2024

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

I am enclosing a contribution of \$ _____ for membership in the 2024 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.



2023 Scholarship Recipients

In order from left to right: Chloe Velto's mother, Brianna Nigrone, Olivia Dixon, and Grace Pinchalk

Accepting the **Marianne McManus** Scholarship for Chloe Velto, who is studying in Prague in the Czech Republic through a program of SUNY's Empire State University, was her mother. Chloe is from Hanover and was sponsored by the Adams County FDW. While still in high school, Chloe learned to listen to marginalized voices. Upon completing her BA in Communications and Media she hopes to employ her interest in global health issues to make health care more accessible and to confront rising health risks that come with climate change. She has participated in events supporting women while in Prague and has learned how those outside the US perceive our politics.

The Eileen Belanger Scholarship was awarded to **Brianna Nigrone**, a Political Science and Media Studies student at Moravian University. Brianna lives in Riegelsville and was recommended by the Easton Area Democratic Committee Chair. As a first-generation college student, Brianna works several part time jobs to afford the high costs of higher education. She is the founder of the Democratic Club on the college campus. Brianna has a strong interest in campaigns and voting and hopes in the future to run social media initiatives to reach young voters. In addition, she is conversational in Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese, which is helpful in aiding new citizens.

Olivia Dixon, a student at the California campus of Penn West University, received a PFDW Scholarship. She is a Communications Sciences and Disorders major, who intends to pursue a Master's degree. Olivia hails from Dunbar and was sponsored by Fayette County Democratic Women. From the day in 2016 that she noticed she was the only one wearing a Hillary Clinton t-shirt to school, she realized that change needs to start with grassroots efforts. She began participating in marches and rallies. At college Olivia revived the college Democratic Club, growing the membership and leading efforts to organize rallies and other events.

Grace Pinchalk of Pittsburgh was the recipient of a PFDW Scholarship and was sponsored by PFDW's 3rd Vice President. Grace is a Rehabilitation Science major with a concentration in the field of Addiction at the Clarion campus of Penn West University. She is the current President of the college Democratic Club. She leads them in holding events such as voter registration drives and the Shropshire award dinner which recognizes democratic leaders. In addition, Grace is the President of the Rehab Club. She plans to pursue a Master's degree. Grace has excelled in balancing her education, work and involvement in activities with success.

Memorial Scholarship Recipients accepted their scholarships at the 2023 PFDW Annual Convention





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
July 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

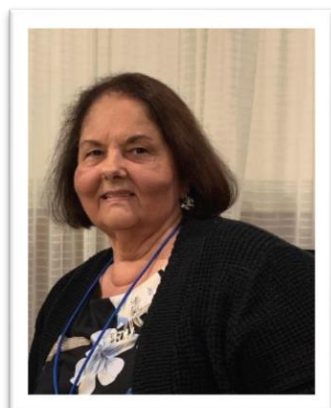
For more information contact:
Michelle Price
484-635-0127

mbernsonprice@gmail.com

Woman of the Year Award

Jennifer Savino

Named 2023 PFDW Woman of the Year



This year honors Jennifer Savino as our Woman of the Year!

Jennifer is a dedicated member of the PFDW and has worked tirelessly for the Democratic Party. She is a member of the Tri-county Democratic Women and former member of Blair County. She handles the financial component of the PFDW scholarships.

Jennifer is always there to step in and help no matter what is needed, and she embodies what we all need to strive for: dedication, selflessness, and a strong belief in Democratic values.

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 **August 1, 2024** 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.

Criteria for Woman of the 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 each year
- Be a mentor 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 August 1, 2024.

**PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN
WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

NOMINATION FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

NOMINEE _____

ADDRESS _____

REGION _____ NUMBER OF YEARS AS 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 2024 PFDW Woman of the Year

NOMINATED BY: Individual or organization

CONTACT PERSON, PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL

Please return this form August 1, 2024 to:

MARY ANN KAPACS
PFDW WOMAN OF THE YEAR CHAIR
623 EAST SPRUCE ST.
OLYPHANT, PA 18447
570-351-3495
or
mimik1954@aol.com

Women of the Year

2023	Jennifer Savino	2001	Patsy Hebor
2022	Harriet Ellenberger	2000	Martha Smith
2021	Joanne McGahagan	1999	Winnie James
2020	Eileen Belanger	1998	Mary Uehlein
2019	Dianne Gregg	1997	Peg Hain
2018	Tracey Lynn Arriola	1996	Shirley Wanamaker
2017	Kaija Farber	1995	Leona Bogdanski
2016	Kathy Huggins	1995	Anna Abajace
2016	Sandi Vulcano	1994	Mabel Meixell
2014	Donna Frank	1993	Winnie Williams
2013	Charlene Doyle	1992	Susan Rutt
2012	Susan Stoltzfus	1991	Louise John
2011	Dorothy Gallagher	1990	Rena Baumgartner
2010	Helen Whiteford	1989	Helen Massock
2009	Harriet Eshleman	1988	Sophie Masloff
2009	Janet Spleen	1987	Barbara Bruno
2008	Joanne Messenlehner	1986	Marianne McManus
2007	Dr. Michele Bortner Selitto	1985	Dorothy Price
2006	Ruth Raglin	1984	Anna Cunha
2005	Dolores "Dee" J. McAllister	1983	Genevieve Morrow
2004	Joan Kelley	1982	Ruth Rudy
2003	Catherine Baker Knoll	1981	Mamie Furmanski
2003	Rosalie Sims	1980	Marilyn Newberry
2002	Shirley Protzman	1979	Rita Wilson Kane
		1978	Anna Mae Dugan



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, APRIL 7, 2024

Harrisburg

OEDW Brunch

**The Outstanding
Elected Democratic
Women's Brunch is a
Brunch with the BEST!**

SAVE THE DATE

Region 2

Regional Director: Barbara Carroll

Region 2 - Concerned Women on the Move
President: Kathryn Huggins

GRATITUDE

The 95th Convention was wonderful.

The Scholarship Luncheon was fabulous!

Congratulations to the scholarship awardees. They were very good! Our guest speaker, Ms. Dawn Chavous was an excellent speaker.

Concerned Women on the Move congratulates the Convention Committee for an excellent job. Well Done!

Congratulations to all New Officers of PFDW. It was very nice that the Committee gave honor to great women who gave many years to PFDW – Peggie Boliner and Pearl Hilley.

We are working hard to get the vote out for this election.

Submitted by Kathy Huggins



Mary Ishssadson, Donna Bullock, Kathryn Huggins, Morgan Cephas



l-r Kathryn Huggins, Timika Lane



Region 2 – Philly Democratic Women Caucus (PFDW)
President: Shantale Galloway

The PDWC has been making plans and strategizing for increased membership and fundraising. Our members have been going to judge forums to learn about and support candidates for our PA Commonwealth.

Philadelphia also has to elect our 100th mayor!

We strongly stand in support of Mayoral Candidate, Cherelle Parker. When she **WINS**, she will be the first woman Mayor in the City of Philadelphia.

It was great going to candidate informational meet and greet sessions as it has given an opportunity to share what we've learned with our communities.

On the PFDW Convention front...

PDWC was pleased to have 4 members attend the 2023 PFDW Convention! It was the first time for 2 of our members, and they enjoyed it! There were many proud blue moments such as: Our very own VP, Star Brown, graced us with a song at our Friday dinner, the grandchildren of our President Shantale Galloway participated in our installment of officers; 9 year-old Braylon recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and 6 year-old Maaliyah said a prayer. There was also a small birthday celebration for our President!

Lastly, we congratulate our President, Shantale Galloway, on becoming the 4th Vice-President of the PA Federation of Democratic Women!



Region 2 – Direct Action Council of Democratic Women
President: Sonya Carroll

At the 95TH CONVENTION of PFDW, El Amor Brawne Ali affectionately known as "Ms. El" from Direct Action Council of Democratic Women in Philadelphia was honored as Woman of the year.

Ms. El has spent decades propelling the Democratic values and agenda throughout the Philadelphia region. In the last 20 years she has focused her attention on the large female population and building up the PFDW. For many years she funded every member of her club, to ensure that they were active members and their voice heard. Direct Action members are proud to be in a club with such a phenomenal woman.



Ms. El
We salute you!!!



We Can Do It!

L O O K WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING!

The Lackawanna women kept busy this spring and summer supporting our local and judicial candidates.

- **Mary Ann Kapacs was totally surprised to be named their Women of the Year; she feels honored to be selected by a group she supports and believes in.**
- **We are gearing up for Election Day. May all our Democrats be successful!**
- **Charlene Doyle, Susan Notarianni and Mary Ann Kapacs attended the 95th PFDW Convention. It was great to see old friends and new faces.**
- **2024, as we know, is a Presidential year.**
- **Plan on spending the 96th Convention of the PFDW in the hometown of the 46th President, Joe Biden! Ain't no party like a Scranton party! Lackawanna County becomes a Presidential happening! The world shows up! We are planning a great time for all!**
- **We have museums, an aquarium, Steamtown National Park, and the John Oliver train at the Trolley Museum. Start planning to attend now!**
- **Plus, we are the home of The Office!**

This is my last article as Regional Director. I have enjoyed doing this. Susan Notarianni will be taking over and will be fabulous! Thank you all!

Mary Ann Kapacs
Regional Director

Region 7 – Adams County Federation of Democratic Women

President: Helen Cook

Summer passed by so quickly here in Adams County. We have not gathered as much as we have in previous years. The 95th Annual Convention has kept us busy. There were peaks and valleys. Valleys were winning by one point. Then the Peaks just starting soaring. The annual Convention was a success, and we all made that happen!

Adams County club members have participated in several events this past year. Through the Adams County Democratic Committee our members have help with Voter registration on the square in Gettysburg, the Pride Festival, and a couple of our ladies were giving out free hugs!

Right now, members are canvassing for our county row offices. Marcia Wilson, our county chair, and a member of the ACFDW Granddaughter Chloe Veto who is studying

abroad in Prague, was the recipient of the Marianne McManus scholarship. At the luncheon the entire audience was very pleased that Chole's mom Sherry came up to the microphone and let everyone know that Chloe was on the Whatsapp App and Chole wanted to speak. This was very impressive and exciting!

Adams County was excited to share Chloe with the PFDW family!

We will be gearing up for our Christmas family to adopt in the next couple weeks. As we head into the busy holiday season, we want to wish all in the PFDW Happy Holidays!

Regional Director: Laura Quick



Region 7 – Lebanon County of Democratic Women’s Association

President: Jackie Parker

Lebanon County might be the red center of our battleground state, but the newly formed Lebanon County Democratic Women’s Association (LCDWA) is working to highlight the strengths of Democratic candidates and the values they represent.

The inaugural March Brunch event was held on the 19th at Hebron Catering and Events in Lebanon. The LCDWA honored the elected women of Lebanon County. Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge, Debbie Kunzelman and candidate for Pennsylvania Superior Court, Jill Beck were the featured speakers.

The chapter handed out the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Award for Judicial Excellence to Aurelis Figueroa, who was elected in 2021 as a district judge in Lebanon. Due to judicial integrity rules, she was not able to attend; Jayne Duncan accepted the award in her place.

Matt Duvall, chair of the Lebanon County Democratic Committee, was presented with a framed copy of the LCDWA charter to display at the Lebanon County Democratic headquarters, and Amanda Waldman, a candidate for the 9th Congressional District, offered some of her artwork and designed the centerpieces for door prizes.

Also attending were state-wide Democratic judicial candidates, Judge Tamika Lane and Bryan Neft. Democratic Lebanon County Commissioner candidates, Diana Carpenter and Michael Schroeder, as well as Liz Judd and Megan Ryland Tanner; two Democratic candidates for the Lebanon County Court of Common Pleas.

Future plans for the chapter might include fundraisers for local candidates, a Democratic Candidates’ forum, and establishing PACS.

I hope we have a lot to report for the next newsletter!

Regional Director: Laura Quick



Region 8 – Berks Democratic Women

President: Linda Woleslagle

DEVELOPING WOMEN LEADERS WHO ARE COLLABORATING TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

October 2023-NAACP Freedom Fund Gala. A number of the BDW members also attended the Reading Branch of the NAACP Freedom Fund Gala in October 2023. Four Awards were given for: Corporate Impact, Community Impact, Image and Youth Image.

“To all Award Recipients, thank you for all that you do. Your efforts and commitments to make a difference in our community is greatly appreciated and worthy of recognition. It is because of your selfless acts of kindness, giving of your selves to improve the lives of others, is why you have been selected as our 2023 Freedom Fund Award recipients.

Peace and Blessings.

Stacey Taylor – President of Reading Branch NAACP #2289”

Berks Democratic Women created Virtual Programs with Local, State and National Leaders:

February – July 2023:

African American Leaders

Women Leaders

Environmental Women Leaders

A Woman Military Leader created the only Museum featuring Women Military Leaders

LGBT Leaders

New American – Leaders

Berks Democratic Women Collaborated with Intercultural Alliance Program:

Three Programs on Racism

Banned Book Bingo

BDW Tabling Events:

Juneteenth Festival in Reading

“The Make the Change Diversity” Festival in Reading



l-r Linda Woleslagle and Stacey Taylor,
President of the Reading NAACP

BDW participated Events:

- LGBT Gala
- Berks County Democratic Committee Dinner Fund Raiser
- Participated in nine Democrat Candidate Fund Raisers
- Women Military Museum Fund Raiser
- NAACP “Freedom Fund Raiser Gala/Dinner
- Promoted Democrat Candidates by tabling, fundraising, texting, phone banking, canvassing
- Trained to be Poll Watchers
- Participated in PA State Democratic Committee – Pittsburgh
- Alliance of Retired Citizens – AFL & CIO in Plymouth Meeting, PA
- PA Federation of Democratic Women Convention in Harrisburg
- BDW monthly Newsletters and BDW Face Book

Regional Director: Leslie Altieri

Region 8 – Greater Eastern Democratic Women’s Club
President: Sandy Vulcano



Several Greater Easton Area Democratic Club members attended the Scholarship Luncheon at the convention to honor our very own member Brianna Nigrone who as one of the Scholarship recipients. Brianna attended with her mother and was awarded the Eileen Belinger Scholarship in the amount of \$1000.00. Brianna is currently attending Moravian University in Bethlehem and is a young and active Democrat in her community and college. Congratulations and good luck to you Brianna on your future endeavors.

Regional Director: Leslie Altieri

Region 8 – Nazareth Area Democratic Women and Vicinity
President: Susan E. Grassi

Nazareth Area Democratic Women and Vicinity has been busy this year with writing postcards, canvassing, and supporting local candidates. We were fortunate to have a very gifted member, Kristin Mullen. She ran our paint party for us. We held it at a local fire hall and combined it with a pizza party. Lovely paintings of tulips were our results. Thanks to Kristin and all who attended. We also held a booth at Nazareth Days at the local Nazareth Park. This was organized by our secretary Jeanie Morgano and was supported by numerous members. I was thankful because I could not attend due to a fractured leg. Thanks to all!

Regional Dir. Leslie Altieri



Region 8 – Northampton County Council of Democratic Women
President: Pamela Pearson

Northampton County Council of Democratic Women is having a busy year!

We have been meeting bi-monthly and were able to help 5 local candidates with funds from our PAC, as well as canvassing, postcard writing, phone banking, and attending fundraising events for all local candidates.

Members Kaija Farber, Rosemary Hensel, Lorraine Mineo, Lori Vargo Heffner, Pamela Pearson, Patrice Schwartzman and Sandi Vulcano attended the 95th PFDW Convention in Harrisburg



and had a great time meeting everyone in person and making new friends.

At the Convention, NCCDW Club member Lori Vargo Heffner was elected PFDW President, and Sandi Vulcano was elected PFDW Treasurer.

Our group is planning at least two fundraising events during 2024 to build up our PAC funds to help more candidates in the future.

We will work diligently to get our Democratic candidates elected!

Region 9 – Women’s Democratic Club of Franklin County
President: Susan Spicka

Our booth at Pride Franklin County held at Wilson College on Oct. 8th. In addition to distributing voting applications and providing voting resources, attendees could spin our "Wheel of LGBTQ+ Discrimination" (ways the LGBTQ+ community can still be discriminated against in PA) and collect a prize (lollipops and State of Liberty keychains.)



Region 9 (continued)

Rainbow Lady Liberty (Secretary Jenny Sefcheck) seen here with Franklin County Democratic Committee Chair and County Commissioner Candidate, Cameron Schroy.



Region 13 –Democratic Women of Westmoreland
President: Phyllis Friend

The Democratic Women of Westmoreland have a lot going on!

The Democratic Women of Westmoreland continue to be active in supporting the campaigns of local and judicial candidates.

WOW has invited local candidates to come to our meetings to introduce themselves and take questions. We continued our postcard writing campaign in support of Democratic Candidates. Due to Moms for Liberty pushing book bans in schools, we have recognized the importance of our local school board races and strategically targeted precincts with tight school board races to receive our postcards.

Our WOW Book Club continues to thrive. We started the Book Club while we were Zooming our meetings during Covid and as we wondered how and why the country changed so much since 2016. We have learned a lot, and our reading and discussions have positively influenced our effectiveness in advancing Democrat candidates and ideas, and our ability to be more prepared for political discussions.

Our members continue to participate in weekly action items by sending messages to elected representatives.

WOW formed a by-laws committee that reviewed and updated the WOW by-laws and unanimously voted to accept the changes at our August meeting. We are now gearing up for the election of a WOW President and Vice President. Also, we have a Christmas Party scheduled at a local restaurant.

Our most recent project was the Food2Go4Kids, a program through St Vincent de Paul that provides healthy food packed to go for weekends and given to kids from one of our local elementary schools who have food insufficiency.



Regional Director: Harriet Ellenberger

Region 14 –Lawrence County Action
President: Juliann Mangino

LCA unveils a new logo and promotes PCP involvement

Lawrence County Action has changed its logo! This was a hard choice to make but after much review, to ensure we are communicating LCA's support of Democrats, we are excited to unveil our NEW logo–



Most recently, LCA has designed a new yard sign for Precinct Committee People (PCP). Many LCA members also serve their communities as Precinct Committee People. Several have chosen to place a PCP Yard Sign in their yard to help spread the message and attract voters. These signs are reusable and transferable so they can be used for years to come.

The signs get placed in the yards of Precinct Committee Persons every October and April during voter registration and GOTV efforts.



Region 15 – Democratic Women of Mercer County

President: Kim Powell

The 81 members of DWMC have been busy!

In July, we passed out candidate information and free books at the Juneteenth Celebration in Farrell. In August, we participated in National Night Out Against Crime, and we teamed up with the county Democratic Party to cater the Saturday lunch at Demstock, a whole weekend of fun with fellow Democrats and our candidates. It was a great fundraiser and a good time!

We've kept up on our community service projects, picking up trash on a two-mile stretch of Route 62, collecting donations for AWARE (a domestic violence victim support organization), and distributing food to veterans with the Community Food Warehouse. Thanks to our efforts, DWMC received a \$500 grant from the Rural Lab Project.

Our monthly meetings featured great speakers on important topics. A DWMC member who works with the Child Advocacy Center told us about trafficked children cared for at Phoenix House in Mercer County. The head of the Western PA Planned Parenthood spoke on their efforts to provide reproductive healthcare. The DWMC made donations to both organizations. We also learned about our member's fights against a proposed gravel mining and processing plant and a dangerous landfill expansion.

And, of course, we marched in parades and talked to voters at the Stoneboro Fair and two Water Fire festivals in Sharon to support our Democratic candidates.

It's what we do!



Regional Director: Judy Hines





Region 17 – Women’s Democratic Club of Brownsville

President: Nicki Todaro

In early 2023, we collected dues and had a lumber ladies event/vendors.

During the months of May through now, we have been hosting different candidates to speak about the school board, commissioners, and row offices that they are running for.

A Christmas party is being planned for Dec. 12th at Melonis in Uniontown.

Upcoming: Scholarships will be back to our local schools in 2024, and the chairperson is Christina Thomas. We will raise funds to donate to the Brownsville Public Library and cover the cost for a graduation banner for 2 seniors.



**Member Melinda Thomas, newly elected
Regional Director at the PFDW Conventions**

CONGRATULATIONS!

Region 17 – Democratic Women of Fayette County

President: Pam Newmeyer

2023 has been an eventful year for the Democratic Women of Fayette County.

The year started with an event to bring greater awareness to members of LGBTQ issues through Pride in the Park in support of local women’s issues. Members gathered feminine hygiene products for women’s shelters.

The focus from July onward continues to be on local Democratic Candidates, and gathering information about the issues behind legislation for members and the community. Thanks to the efforts of our President, Pam Newmeyer, we hosted a very informative presentation about local action to address human trafficking.

Future plans for fall quarter will be increasing voter turn-out and getting more young people involved in politics in general. The year will end with a Holiday get-together and the Executive Committee planning for 2024 and the election of officers in February.



**Mary Marra, Olivia Dixon, Scholarship Recipient,
and elected Corresponding Secretary, Trinette
Cunningham at PFDW Convention**

Region 17 – The Washington County Council of Democratic Women

President: Kelly Watson

Since our Spring 2023 update, the Washington County Council of Democratic Women (WCCDW) elected new officers, who were sworn in at our annual summer picnic.

With this new leadership comes a new vision of re-organization and revitalization of our council.

Some of our current projects and goals include supporting Democratic candidates, continuing to educate ourselves and the public on our party and the issues, increasing our membership, and expanding our community service efforts.



Regional Director: Melinda Thoma

Over the summer, we have hosted a variety of events for causes and candidates, two of whom are members of our council. We have also been attending various meetings and events within the community - often decked out in our shirts - making sure WCCDW's presence is known!



Region 18 – The Allegheny County Club
President: Jean Milko

WE ARE ON THE MOVE!!!!

Three Rivers Democratic Women
President Deanne McNally
Regional Director: Bonnie DiCarlo

Catherine Baker Knoll Democratic Women
President Grisel Campos
Regional Director: Bonnie DiCarlo



Grace Pinchalk

Region 18 is on the move! We are expanding and here's what's happening ... the Allegheny County Club is doing a reorganization lead by Bonnie DiCarlo. And there are two new clubs – Three Rivers Democratic Women (TRDW) and Catherine Baker Knoll Democratic Women (CBKDW) that received their charters at the convention. More convention news: We are proud of Grace Pinchalk of Pittsburgh, who impressed us and won a PFDW Scholarship. And Deanne McNally, who was elected as the PFDW 3rd Vice President.

President Lori Vargo Heffner presents the club charter for the Catherine Baker Knoll Democratic Women to the club officers, President Grisel Campos and Vice President Lisa Baldis.



Good luck and best always to Sara Innamorato, Democratic candidate for Allegheny County Executive. Congratulations on receiving a donation from the PFDW PAC.

LET'S WIN on November 7!

Regional Director: Bonnie DiCarlo

A WOMAN'S
CHOICE IS NOT
FOR SALE!!!

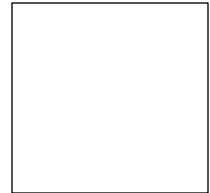




Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Inc.

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 PFDW 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 2024