



GERMANTOWN DEMOCRATIC CLUB

GERMANTOWN, CORDOVA, COLLIERVILLE, BARTLETT, EAST MEMPHIS,
LAKELAND, MILLINGTON, ROSEMARK, BOLTON
SINCE 1993

www.gdctn.org

JANUARY 2023

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Vice Presidents:
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Secretary: Rose Ann Bradley

Treasurer: Dick Klenz

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Newsletter: Diane Cambron

Memberships:
Individual: \$25/year
Family: \$35/year

Send checks to Dick Klenz,
Treasurer, 2041 Whispering
Pines Dr, Germantown, TN
38139.



“Pro tip: a 6-year-old kid with
a handgun and a grudge is not
a well-regulated militia”

- Jeff Tiedrich on
Twitter 1/8/23

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OUR MEETINGS ARE HELD
AT COLETTA’S RESTAURANT
2850 Appling Rd, Bartlett**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023, 6:30 PM
VAN TURNER, JR**

Our guest speaker will be former County Commissioner and current head of the local NAACP, Van Turner. Mr. Turner is also planning to run for Memphis City Mayor in 2023.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023, 6:30 PM
HOUSING ISSUES IN SHELBY COUNTY**

We are still confirming a speaker (or speakers) to address specific aspects of this broad issue, and will publish via email and Facebook once finalized.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023, 6:30 PM
MICKELL LOWERY**

The current Chair of the Shelby County Commission will be our guest speaker.

Our meetings start at 6:30 pm, but if you wish to dine before the meeting, please make sure to arrive and get your orders in before 6:00 pm to cut down on the traffic during the speakers’ presentations. Thanks!

Also in this newsletter is an envelope for contributions. We do not require membership fees, but we do collect voluntary contributions. These contributions allow us to publish our newsletter, maintain our website and email domain, host our annual picnic and other activities throughout the year. Your generous support allows us to preach our Democratic values here in East Shelby County. Thanks, everyone, and see you at Coletta’s.
– Dave Cambron

SCDP REORGANIZATION

Every two years the county parties reorganize to create a new Executive Committee/Grass Roots Council and to elect Officers. The reorganization is coming up this Spring – the tentative dates are March 18th for the in-person convention with the Chair election 2 weeks later on April 1 (via Zoom). This is all preliminary, since the Convention site has not yet been selected nor has a convention committee been formed.

This is your opportunity to get involved in charting our County's participation in next year's Presidential and Senate elections. There is always a need for people to step up to these important positions. If you need more information on how to get elected, please send an email to GTownDems@gdctn.org with Executive Committee in the subject line or reach out to any Steering Committee member.

Also, putting on one of these conventions truly does “take a village.” If you are interested in volunteering to work the convention on the 18th to check people in, show them where to go, or anything, the Party needs your help. Please send an email to GTownDems@gdctn.org with Volunteer in the subject line. Traditionally, Germantown Democrats provide a number of volunteers, so let's keep our streak going.

SPECIAL ELECTION

If you live in State House District 86 or know someone who does (Dist. 86 follows the Mississippi River from the state line north to Millington) please remember to vote in the special election to replace the late Rep. Barbara Cooper. Election day is Tuesday, January 24th.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of Shelby County Democratic Women – President Pamela Kelly; Vice President Gortria Banks; and Correspondence Secretary Arielle Gipson-Martin.

GOTV GOTV GOTV

GOTV, Get Out The Vote, should be our mantra for the next 2 years.

Hawaii – 41.1%
Oklahoma – 40.1%
Alabama – 37.7%
Mississippi – 37.1%
West Virginia - 35.7
Tennessee – 31.6%.

These are the 6 states with the lowest voter turnout in November's election. We are dead last, trailing West Virginia by over 4%!

They're winning. Republicans and their Republican dominated County Election Commissions are well on their way to destroying democracy here in Tennessee.

It was no one thing. Rather, it was death by a thousand cuts – they reduced early voting in many rural counties, they purged the voting rolls of what they define as inactive voters, they've trained volunteers to aggressively challenge voters trying to cast ballots. The list goes on and on and each action results in another thousand voters staying home in Madison County or another 350 people just not bothering in Cocke County. They are getting what they want when people stay home.

We know from our research that most Tennesseans want the same things we Democrats want – good schools, a living wage, a safe environment, and a government free of corruption and special interests. The only way Republicans win is if the average Tennessean stays home.

So, let's spend the next year figuring tactics and strategies to reverse this trend. How do we get more people to vote? We have high registration, just abysmal participation.

At one of our upcoming meetings let's use the time to brainstorm some ideas on this. We can crystallize our discussion and pass it on to the appropriate groups. Start thinking now.

I read an article once that stated, “Decisions are made by those who show up.” We need to work to increase “those who show up.”

- *Dave Cambron*