



GERMANTOWN DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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

www.gdctn.org

January, 2017

President: Dave Cambron
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Vice Presidents:
Judy Palmer & Adrienne
Pakis-Gillon

Secretary: Rose Ann Bradley

Treasurer: Dick Klenz

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Newsletter: Diane Cambron

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

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

*So, you see, that's what our
democracy demands. It needs you.
Not just when there's an election,
not just when your own narrow
interest is at stake, but over the
full span of a lifetime...*

- From President
Barack Obama's
farewell speech,
1/10/17

MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

Ron Redwing of the Redwing Group

Will be sharing strategies for how to lobby your legislators
effectively.

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Dr. Brian Waldron,

Associate Professor of Civil Engineering and Director of Center
for Applied Earth Science and Engineering at the University of
Memphis, will help us to understand the issues surrounding the
Memphis aquifer.

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Donnell Cobbins

of the Shelby County Trustee's office will explain the
responsibilities of the Shelby County Trustee.

All regular meetings are held at Coletta's Restaurant, 2850
Appling Rd, Bartlett (just south of Stage & Appling). Dinner
starts at

6:00 pm, meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

If you have not paid your dues, a pre-addressed envelope has
been enclosed for your convenience. Our dues help pay for
publication of our quarterly newsletter, our website, and other
activities throughout the year.

NOW WHAT?!

We have a new President. How do we feel about that? During the presidential campaign Donald Trump made many comments that gave me concern about his ability to provide the leadership that our country needs, but I did not believe it possible that he would win. As Election Day drew near I began to realize that he could actually win. Well, he did, and I can hardly envision where he may lead us. Since Election Day his comments and actions have done nothing to make me feel comfortable about our future during his term in office.

When the new president and his administration engage in efforts that we consider not in the best interests of our country, we should heed the advice of Randall Kennedy, professor at Harvard Law School. Writing in *The American Prospect*, Kennedy recommends that, “Regular folks can engage in opposition by petitioning their political representatives; by persuading disconnected friends and family members to become politically engaged by subscribing to progressive media; by supporting organizations attuned to the protection of our civil rights and civil liberties (such as the American Civil Liberties Union, the Mexican American Legal and Educational Fund and NARAL, Pro-Choice America); by supporting public radio and television as Trump uses commercial pressures to squeeze the mainstream press; by volunteering to assist Muslim and other victims of scapegoating who may in the future find themselves subjected to governmental or vigilante harassment; by engaging in disciplined marches; by targeted boycotts, and other sorts of mass demonstrations; and by mobilizing now for the next round of local and national elections.”

So, now is the time for action. It’s time to watch the new administration and hold them accountable. It’s time to join with other members of the Germantown Democratic Club to resist activities that endanger progress in moving our ideals forward and not drag us backward.

- *Contributed by Dick Klenz*

STAY INVOLVED!

With apologies to Charles Dickens, this is the worst of times, this is the best of times. November 8 was not what any of us expected. Many of us worked hard to elect a president who would continue Obama’s legacy, but chaos intervened, and we are where we are. There

is good, however. We flipped Tennessee State Legislative District 96 from Republican to Democrat, and elected one of our club members, Dwayne Thompson, as State Representative. All of us are proud of Dwayne and know he will do an outstanding job representing many of our club members in Nashville.

There is another bright side to what happened in November. People are activated and complacency has vanished. You can see that in the crowds that show up at every meeting of progressive groups in western Tennessee. People are showing up and they want to be involved. New groups are forming – some as actual groups with meetings and members, and others as virtual groups on social media in private Facebook pages. Democrats on social media and their calls to action were what stopped Republicans from gutting ethics committees; not a tweet from a man who knows nothing about ethics.

Stay involved, the struggle continues. This is a marathon, not a sprint. In addition to the familiar groups, Democratic Women of Shelby County, Young Democrats, and Moms Demand Action, here are some new options:

- Join the **TNDP Rapid Response Team**. Sign up at tndp.org. The Rapid Response team issues calls to action, asking team members to contact legislators on issues important to Democrats in Tennessee.
- Join **Together We Will West Tennessee** – secret Facebook group. Its goal is to keep its members informed about upcoming events in West Tennessee and to issue calls to action. To join, send an email request to: TogetherWeWillWestTN901@gmail.com.
- “Like” **Future901** on Facebook. Its goal is to bring together progressives in Memphis and Shelby County to further our mutual goals and recruit/elect progressives to office.
- When the **Shelby County Democratic Party** reorganizes, get involved to ensure that they get off to a great start by building a dynamic, flexible organization ready to serve the needs of all Democrats in Shelby County.

- *Contributed by Dave Cambron*