



GERMANTOWN DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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

www.gdctn.org

JUNE, 2020

President: Dave Cambron
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Vice Presidents:

Judy Palmer,
Barbara Williams

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,
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38139.



**“Injustice anywhere is
a threat to justice
everywhere.”**

- *Rev. Martin Luther
King, Jr.*

ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, we have suspended our monthly meetings. We had hoped that we would be able to resume meeting in June, but are concerned about the increasing cases in Shelby County. We do not feel comfortable resuming our monthly meetings until we see a steady and consistent decline in cases of COVID. While we miss getting together for fellowship and lively discussions, we feel confident that this is the best approach. We are considering using either Zoom or Facebook Live to broadcast speakers of interest.

Please follow Germantown Democratic Club on Facebook if you have not already done so.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

We face the most important race of our lives taking place this year. We must elect Joe Biden by an unchallengeable margin. Donald Trump and his philosophy must be relegated to the scrap heap of history on November 3rd. Unfortunately, Tennessee will not be a battleground state, but we do have a part to play. When the campaign ramps up, they will need us supporting states like Georgia and North Carolina. We will have more information as the summer wears on – monitor our Facebook page for information as it becomes available. There will be signs available in July from the SCDP.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Many of our members have been unable to attend the protests against the outrageous use of deadly force against George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery. We can, however, show our support of those peaceful protestors in Memphis who were arrested. Legal defense fund donations can be made through the Memphis NAACP here:

<http://www.naacpmemphis.org/georgefloyd/>

ABSENTEE VOTING

Due to the COVID pandemic, many of our members may opt to vote by absentee ballot in August and/or November. Although voters over the age of sixty have always had the right to vote by absentee ballot, up until this past week concern about COVID was not considered sufficient reason for those under sixty to request one. Thanks to a ruling by a Tennessee judge, registered voters concerned about potential exposure to the virus may now apply for an absentee ballot, and the request form has been amended to show that specific reason. This ruling will no doubt be appealed, but as of right now, you may request an absentee ballot for COVID reasons. Stay tuned to local news for any updates.

In Shelby County you may request an absentee ballot application to be mailed to you or you may download one online at www.shelbyvote.com (under the tab for elections, select the upcoming August 6 primary). To have one mailed to you call 901-222-6800 or email absenteevoting@shelbycountyttn.gov. All application forms must be submitted to the SCEC by no later than July 30 for the August 6 primary election. Since the August election is a primary, you must indicate which party's primary you wish to vote in (Democratic, we hope!). If you have never voted before, the only way you can vote absentee is if you registered in person. Please contact the election commission if you have any questions at all about your eligibility as a new voter.

The ballots are required to be ready for mailing out to absentee voters by no later than 30 days before the election, or July 7.

STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS

In a summer of pandemic and protest, elections matter more than ever. The

state/federal primary is August 6th (early voting is July 17th thru August 1st); the general election is November 3rd (early voting is October 14th thru October 29th).

The club has endorsed Democratic candidates in races where there are no primary contenders. Our endorsees include club members Jerri Green in District 83, Rep. Dwayne Thompson in District 96, and Julie Byrd Ashworth in Senate District 32. We have also endorsed Lynette Williams in District 95.

In addition, there are several club members or supporters running in primaries in August: Allan Creasy and Gabby Salinas in District 97; Sara Kyle in Senate District 30; GT Dems Steering Committee member Professor Lawrence Pivnick in US House District 8; Congressman Steve Cohen and former SCDP Chair Corey Strong in US House District 9; and James Mackler in the US Senate. We are not endorsing in these races since they are contested primaries.

NOTE: These races cover the districts where the majority of our members live, but there are other races in Shelby County. We support Democrats in all general election races.

All of these candidates need our support. Reach out to get involved through their websites and Facebook pages or contact any club officer if you want to help. Because of the pandemic, traditional voter contact through canvassing may be cut back considerably this year, so advertising and mailers will be more important than ever. These cost money, so please donate to the candidate of your choice to the extent that you are able. We have great candidates running for seats that can be flipped, but the candidates can't do it alone.

Thanks for everything people are doing. Stay healthy.