

"Repeat after me: The federal deficit is not the nation's biggest problem. The anemic recovery, huge unemployment, falling wages, and declining home prices are bigger problems. We don't have a budget crisis. We have a jobs and growth crisis." -
Robert Reich

We encourage you to become a sponsoring member of the Germantown Democratic Club: Sponsoring Membership

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Website: www.gdctn.org

GERMANTOWN DEMOCRATIC CLUB

GERMANTOWN, BARTLETT, CORDOVA, COLLIERVILLE, EAST MEMPHIS, LAKELAND, BOLTON, ROSEMARK, MILLINGTON and UNINCORPORATED AREAS

AUGUST MEETING

Wednesday, August 24th, 2011

City Councilman Jim Strickland will discuss the schoolboard situation and his vision for Memphis.

Meet for dinner 6:00 PM

Speaker 6:45 PM

Coletta's, 2850 Appling Way, Bartlett (Appling Way @ Stage Rd.)

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 24, 2011 @ 5 PM

Come join us for our annual
ALL AMERICAN PICNIC

We will gather at the gazebo in Germantown Municipal Park (Farmington & Exeter in Germantown) for hot dogs, socializing and old fashioned politicking.

OCTOBER MEETING

Wednesday, October 26, 2011 @ 6:30 pm

State Senator Beverly Marrero will discuss the upcoming 2012 state legislative session.

Meet for dinner 6:00 PM

Speaker 6:45 PM

Coletta's, 2850 Appling Way, Bartlett (Appling Way @ Stage Rd.)

Tennessee Values Summit

by Diane Cambron

Who are we as Democrats? Why does our message often get lost in the weeds, and what can we do to tell our story more effectively? These were questions addressed by the Tennessee Values Summit, a 2-day conference hosted by TNDP Chair Chip Forrester May 21-22 in Jackson, TN.

The highlight of the summit was a talk by Drew Weston, author of *The Political Brain*, a clinical psychologist who has studied people's reactions to political jargon, and has come up with some suggestions for different ways to frame our message more effectively. Weston's 3 principles of communication are: tell a coherent story; if you don't feel it, don't use it; and be aware of what networks you are activating when you use a word or phrase. (The word "network" refers to the web of word associations that typically come to mind when a certain word is used.)

Rounding out the conference were a panel discussion by various Tennessee politicians and activists, including former gubernatorial candidate Mike McWherter, on "Framing Our Values"; the presentation of a survey conducted by two Vanderbilt University professors gauging the actual political attitudes of Tennesseans compared to self-professed political affiliation (interestingly, not as conservative as one might think); and several presentations on the latest trends in communication and tips for grassroots organizing.

Germantown Democratic Club Happenings by Diane Cambron

Our future meeting schedule is in limbo right now for a couple of reasons. In the first place, the Cordova Library hours have been shortened due to budget cuts, so we are having to find an alternate location for our regular meetings. We may be meeting at various locations in the near future until we can find another home.

We are also discussing whether we should continue meeting on Wednesday nights or whether there might be some other time of the week that would work better. Our webmaster, Becki Barnhardt, has put a survey on our facebook page to see what

would work out best for our members. To respond to the survey please "Like" us on facebook, find the post and click the link to survey monkey (we are listed on facebook as Germantown Democratic Club). If you would prefer to express an opinion the old-fashioned way, feel free to call Diane at 624-2504.

Please stay tuned to our newsletter and our e-mail communications for any changes in our meeting location or schedule.

The Germantown Democratic Club will have a booth at the Germantown Festival this year. The festival will be held September 10 and 11 at the Germantown Civic Club Complex on Poplar Pike. We will be registering voters and sharing information about the new Voter ID law that will go into effect in 2012. Anyone interested in volunteering to work the booth for a couple of hours that weekend should contact Dave Cambron at 624-2504. We look forward to seeing you there!

Save the date December 3 for our annual Christmas Party for Sponsoring Members and their guests.

Hail to the Chief: Our very own GDC President Dick Klenz has been elected President of the National Association of Retired Postal Inspectors. He will serve for the 2012-2013 year and will preside over the Regional and National Executive Committee meetings.



Doug Imig of the Urban Child Institute presenting "The Class of 2025" at our July meeting.

