



Blue Notes



Douglas County Democrats

The voice of Douglas County, Nevada Democrats

January, 2014



Happy 'Blue' Year!

2013 2014



Pivotal year for Democrats

- President Obama is sworn in for a second term as the 44th President of the United States.
- DCDCC Officers led by Chair Kim Cole are introduced at the annual Keep Nevada Blue Dinner.
- DCDCC hears from key speakers, including former Nevada State Supreme Court Justice Michael Cherry; Sarah Mesereau-Adler of the U.S. Department of Agriculture; Nate Helton, president of Young Democrats of Nevada; State Treasurer Kate Marshall and Rural Caucus Chair Nyla Howell.
- Another popular barbecue is held.
- Dozens of Douglas Dems march in Minden, Carson City parades.

New year, new hope

- Bad luck turns into good fortune as we get a remodeled headquarters thanks to a broken water pipe.
- "Take Back the House" is the theme for the New Year.
- Democrats look to turning rural Nevada counties BLUE.
- Watch for more headliners to address the Democratic Central Committee.
- Nevada State Treasurer and candidate for Secretary of State Kate Marshall will give the keynote address to the 2014 Keep Nevada Blue Dinner in March.

**Please share this newsletter
with your Democratic friends**





‘The Flood’

Water from a broken pipe inundated the Democratic Headquarters in December. The ceiling was gone (upper left), the floor had to be replaced (center) but fortunately, insurance covered the remodel (below).



Learn nuts & bolts of upcoming caucus

The Jan. 23 DCDCC gathering will serve as a housewarming for the remodeled Douglas County Democratic Headquarters. Attendees will learn the nuts and bolts of the upcoming Feb. 22 Douglas County Democratic Caucus.

2014 Douglas County Democratic Caucus; Plan to attend and bring a Democratic friend

The 2014 Douglas County Democratic Caucus will be held at Douglas High School Feb. 22. There will be a call to action for us to do our part to take the House of Representatives back. This is your chance to see our party in action and be a part of history in the making.

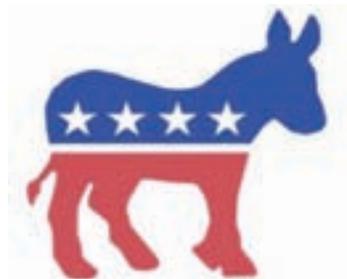
Nevada State Treasurer candidate to address Douglas Dems at February DCDCC meet

Kim Wallin, our candidate for Nevada State Treasurer, will address the Central Committee Feb. 27. Let's give her a big welcome to Douglas County. The meeting will start with a social at 6:30 p.m. The business meeting begins at 7 p.m.



Annual Keep Nevada Blue Dinner March 22

Kate Marshall will deliver the keynote address to the annual Keep Nevada Blue Dinner Saturday, March 22, at the Carson Valley Inn. She is currently the Nevada State Treasurer and a candidate for Secretary of State. Other constitutional state officers are expected to attend.



From the Chair ...



What channel are you watching?

Long ago I learned that the ability to form sound opinions and reach solid conclusions was based on gathering the best available data on any topic or situation, evaluating the information carefully, and even considering perspectives that differed from my own. With all the challenges and opinions circulating around various media these days, on just about any imaginable subject, it's important to seek the best available information if we are to be truly informed.

By the time a news issue makes it to mainstream media, it's probably already been on my news feed for several hours. Then, once a story moves through a news cycle, there's a period of postincident opinionating that continues until many have weighed in with their ideas of what they think happened, what they think should have happened or what they think will happen next.

Of course, there's always the possibility that something truly new and newsworthy occurs, which almost instantly renders the previous commentary moot and we begin a new cycle.

A brief few years ago, I began paying much closer attention to news programs and, more specifically political news programs. I listened to different perspectives from pundits of varying political persuasions and, stimulated by curiosity, after a few spot checks of content, let's say politely, their information was revealed to be less than accurate. Or completely out of context. Or both.

Now, a question that first comes to mind: Does the source offer alternate points of view or only one? Or does the source simply state "this is the way it is," implying this is the only perspective that matters? Noticeably biased media sources, whether they are

right OR left, jump out of the computer screen with little scrutiny. And then they jump right into my "source of questionable content" memory file.

If a particular pundit shows a disposition toward consistent sensationalism rather than delivering objective information, that show or pundit is removed from my preferred sources.

I also generally avoid Internet memes; although they can often be quite humorous, I find it difficult to believe that Gene Wilder came up with all those snarky comments about Republicans while he was filming *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* some 40+ years ago.

On a related note, tremendous humor often stems from simply observing things that actually happened (this does make me wonder about the general absence of conservative humorists), and asking the listener/viewer to draw a conclusion. There is something I find incredibly appealing about being stimulated to form my own thoughts and then enjoying a good laugh when the conclusion is reached.

Now when I become aware that something has occurred, it really doesn't take all that much research to get a decent idea what's happened.

After discovering sources that show consistent integrity, investigating the news is far less time-consuming and deductions are inevitably more accurate.

What channel are you watching?

Kimi Cole

Member profile:

‘Chad’ launches Cindy Trigg into a life of politics, public service

(Editor’s note: Each edition of your Blue Notes features a profile of a Democratic leader in Douglas County.)

It was the year 2000 and it looked like Al Gore would win the 54th quadrennial presidential election, but the word “chad” was about to become watercooler talk across the country. Many people believe a U.S. Supreme Court ruling discarding thousands of punch-card ballots with chads (imperfections caused by the voting machines) cost the Democratic candidate the presidency.

The High Court invalidated thousands of ballots, which many feel would have gone to Gore. Instead, George W. Bush won the pivotal state and the election.

Cindy Trigg was infuriated and decided to do something. She got involved in politics.

“It compelled me to say, “OK, this is enough,” the second vice chair and campaign Liaison of the Douglas County Democrats recalled. “I was amazed people weren’t rioting in the streets because their votes weren’t being counted.”

It was about that time the South Lake Tahoe Democrat joined the fledgling DCDCC and the Douglas County Democratic Women.

Because of her involvement with the high school where her son, Matt, had just graduated, she was talked into to running for the Douglas County school board.

She won. That was in 2004. Since then Trigg has won a tight reelection and then a third term for which she ran uncontested.

“I have enjoyed every single minute of the hard work it is,” she said.

She’s passionate about her school board work, especially in the importance of grades pre-kindergarten through third. “You learn to read by the third grade, then you read to learn,” she explained. “It’s critical that parents know how much they have to be engaged with their child’s education.”

She’s become just as passionate about the role of Democrats, traveling around the country for various events and working hard today with Nevada’s rural counties. She is immediate past chair of the DCDCC.

“She brings tremendous experience and dedication to the table,” noted chair Kim Cole.

Trigg said probably 85 percent of Americans — Democrats and Republicans alike — agree on what the issues are. “Its how we get to the solution that we differ,” she said.



Cindy Trigg

(Continued on next page)

CINDY TRIGG (Continued from page 5)

The past year has been a positive one for local Democrats, she said. “We’ve made headway. We’re becoming better known as a genuine community service group as well as a political group. Because we are a minority, that’s critical.” Cindy cited the Douglas Democrats support of the Backpack Buddies program which helps ensure low income children get needed food.

“We present critical issues to the community and we do it in a less confrontational way,” she continued. Cindy recalled once asking some Republican friends to work on a project with Democrats. “I was told it’s against their bylaws.”

She said local Democrats need to continue to appeal to younger Democrats, encouraging them to seek public office.

“We have to keep doing what we are doing and draw more people to our meetings,” she said.

She said we need to remember the words of coach/philosopher John Wooden: “Failure is not fatal, but failure to change might be.”

Timely Ticklers



Young Democrats Club

Plans are continuing to establish, then support, a Young Democrats Club in Douglas County. For information, contact Carol Lark at (775) 636-0050 or email her at carollark678@gmail.com.

Scholarship fund

DCDCC is looking for high school students who may be eligible for our \$1,000 scholarship. The award will go to a student at Douglas or Whittell High school.

Contributions toward the scholarship fund would be greatly appreciated. Please send to DCDW, P.O. Box 939, Minden, NV 89423.

Recipe for action:

The magic ingredient is ... YOU!

Douglas Democrats are organizing voter registration drives to be held beginning in February and continue until the November midterm election.

While encouraging the public to become involved in matters that affect their daily lives and let their voices be heard, we can demonstrate our enthusiasm to support Democratic candidates in the upcoming election cycle!

For more information or to volunteer, contact chair Kimi Cole at (775) 721-1212. or email kimimcole@gmail.com.

Your 2013 DCDCC Officers ...

Chair of DCDCC: Kim Cole (kimimcole@gmail.com)

First Vice Chair: Paul Belt

Second Vice Chair (Campaign Liaison): Cindy Trigg

Secretary: Katherine Winans

Treasurer: Eric Griffin

Member-at-large: Melanie Meehan-Crossley

Member-at-large: Gim Hollister

Chairs of Standing Committees:

Administration Committee: Nancy Downey

Publicity/ Public Relations: Pat Stanley

Fundraising/Finance: Pending

Membership: Pending

Candidate Recruitment: Pending

Political Action/ Programs: Pending

YOUR BLUE CALENDAR

Happy New Year 2014

January 20 — Monday 6:30 p.m.

DCDCC Executive Committee

Headquarters

1513 Hwy 395, Gardnerville

January 23 — Thursday 6:30 p.m.

DCDCC Central Committee

Headquarters

1513 Hwy 395, Gardnerville

January 25 — Saturday

State Central Committee Meeting,

Clark County (with video link to

Washoe County Democrats

Headquarters in Reno)



February 17 — Monday 6:30 p.m.

DCDCC Executive Committee

Headquarters

1513 Hwy 395, Gardnerville

February 22 — Saturday

Douglas County Democratic

Caucus

February 27 — Thursday

DCDC Central Committee

Headquarters

1513 Hwy 395, Gardnerville

March 22 — Saturday

Keep Nevada Blue Dinner

Carson Valley Inn