



April 2018	Delaware County Democratic Party Newsletter	Issue #4
------------	--	----------



Cheers From The Chair

Ed Helvey, Chair

Time for the Biennial Party Elections and Reorganization

Now that this strange winter is history, it's time to embark on spring cleaning and yard work. There is nothing as rejuvenating as getting things ready for summer. The same is true for the Delaware County Democratic Party. It is time for us to assess and reorganize before we head into the fall campaign.

At the May 8th election, we will be electing and re-electing our precinct Central Committee members. A large number are running unopposed, but a few will face competition. These races are near the end of the ballot just before Issue 1. Make sure to vote all the way down the ballot so you do not miss any races or issues (check your sample ballot [here](#)).

Once the final tally is certified on May 25th, we can begin the reorganization of our county party. The meeting to re-organize the party will be held on June 7, 2018, beginning at 7:30 at the Willis Education Center, 74 West William Street in downtown Delaware. We will be electing a new Chair and male Vice Chair, since we know Roger Van Sickle and I are not seeking re-election. We will also be electing a new Secretary as Carol Young has decided to not run again. In addition, there will be an election for our Treasurer and female Vice Chair at the June meeting.

The reorganization meeting will be conducted under the guidance of the Ohio Revised Code, our local constitution and by-laws, and the constitution and by-laws of the Ohio Democratic Party.

First of all, there are two major components of our governing structure, the Central Committee and the Executive Committee. The Central Committee is comprised of those elected at the precinct level. The Executive Committee is comprised of the Central Committee and those nominated and elected to serve on the Executive Committee. The most important criterion for appointment is that you are a Democrat, demonstrated by voting in the Democratic Primary. The second criterion is that you support the values, candidates, and positions of the Democratic Party. The third criterion is that you have shown interest in being part of the governance of the party. We look to see if you have attended at least three meetings of the party before appointment to the Executive Committee.

The reason we have appointed members is that you may live in a precinct that is represented by an elected member. Often times, appointed members are friends, neighbors, spouses, or family members of the elected member. This allows all of us the opportunity to serve should we desire to do so.

Procedurally, the meeting will be conducted as follows. First, there will be a roll call, either aloud or by signing in. Next, the elected Central Committee members will be sworn in. Once that is done, the elected members will vote for the Chair of the Party. The Chair will then be sworn in and will run the remainder of the meeting. The Chair will entertain a motion to combine the duties and responsibilities of the Central Committee and the Executive Committee. Then, we will begin the process of nominating and electing Executive Committee members. If the nominated person lives in a precinct that does not have an elected member, they will be elected to serve in that precinct. Those nominated who live in a precinct that has an elected member will be an at-large member of the Central Committee. Once nominated and voted upon, the appointed members will be sworn in to their positions.

At this point, we will be the largest Democratic Executive Committee in Delaware County history!

Remember, the only power and responsibility the elected members have that appointed members do not have is the election of the Chair.

Either at this meeting or subsequent meetings, the new Chair shall appoint the Committee Chairs of the various Party Committees. It is incumbent that all of us support each other, lending our talents and treasure to our Party and slate of candidates.

In conjunction with this, we will have an orientation/welcome breakfast on May 19th at the Delaware Township Hall, 2590 Liberty Road, Delaware, Ohio beginning at 8:30 a.m. The fellowship, food, and discussion should be great. I cannot wait to see you all there!

-Ed Helvey

Reminder: Miss a newsletter? They are archived on our [website](#).



Spring Voting is Now!

Spring primary voting is often overlooked, even by concerned citizens. But it's a keystone of the democratic process, and there are few excuses to ignore it.

You don't need to postpone your voting until the last day, May 8, when other priorities may arise. Early voting began on April 10 at the Board of Election in Delaware County on Route 23, slightly north of Delaware. To vote by mail, you can get an application for an absentee ballot from the Board of Elections or from its website. Absentee ballots must be postmarked no later than May 7 or received by the Board of Elections by the close of polls on May 8. See contact information below.

If you choose to vote in person on May 8 you can preview the candidates' slate on our [website](#).

Note: The May 8th Primary is actually two primaries in one due to the resignation of Tiberi this past January. The first primary is to determine who will vie to complete the remainder of the term for the US 12th congressional ending in January of 2019. The winners of this primary will contend with each other in a Special Election on August 7, 2018. If you missed the April 9 deadline to register to vote, register now for the August 7 Special Election as well as for the November General Election. Let's Get Out the Vote!

According to Nathan Gonzales of *Inside Elections*, the timing of the special election and increased turnout in the Columbus suburbs could lead to a competitive race. When changing the district's rating from Safe Republican to Likely Republican, Gonzales wrote, "Republicans could also be too busy putting out fires in other districts across the country ahead of November to focus on Ohio's 12th in August. A low turnout race toward the end of summer could benefit the energized party, which right now is the Democrats."

The Issues on the May 8th ballot are:

1. Issue One, to counter the effects of gerrymandering, is the only statewide issue on the ballot and is supported by the Ohio Democratic Party and the Delaware County Democratic Party. Details were in the February newsletter and are posted as such on the [website](#). If the May issue fails, the petition drive in support of another issue on gerrymandering will continue and, if successful, will be placed on the November ballot. To find out more about the ballot issue, go to [Fair Districts Ohio](#).
2. A county-wide levy for Senior Services is also on the May ballot. The contacts for more information are: www.saveseniorservices.org, the Committee to Save Senior Services, 800 Cheshire Road, Delaware, OH 43015; (740) 363-6677.

For details on voter registration, finding your polling place, absentee voting, and other voter information, contact the Delaware Board of Elections at www.delawareboe.org; 740-833-2080. The address is 2079 US Highway 23 North, PO Box 8006, Delaware, OH 43015.

Open Monday-Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm

If you missed the April 8 deadline to register to vote, register NOW for the November general election when the voting on the 12th District representative to Congress will be especially crucial during the General election.



Gun Safety is Focus of Rallies in Columbus and Across U.S.

The deadly mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida that claimed the lives of 17 students and teachers on Feb. 14 prompted a national outcry. In the aftermath of the tragedy, those students whose classmates and teachers were killed have taken to social media and orchestrated action in roughly 800 communities across the country, calling on citizens and politicians to reform the nation's gun laws.

Columbus, Ohio Rally:



On Saturday, March 24, in Columbus, more than 5,000 students, teenagers, children, parents and teachers marched from West Bank Park in downtown Columbus to the Ohio Statehouse. They marched for their lives, for others and for those who have already died at the hands of a gun. They marched to end gun violence and demand action from state and national lawmakers, chanting and protesting with chants like “The NRA has got to go,” and “This is what democracy looks like.”

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown attended the march with wife, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Connie Schultz. “Students are going to change the world this year. Congress won’t do its job, the legislature won’t do its job, and young people aren’t going to give up,” Brown said in an interview. “We’re counting on students to vote [in November]. We’re counting on young voters everywhere to come out in larger numbers than ever before and change the country.”

The entertainment and speakers were exceptional, including Melissa Clark, a survivor of gun violence; Drew Gittins, a survivor of the Chardon High School shooting; Erick Bellomy Jr. and Samira Mohamud; March for Our Lives Columbus organizers.

Several of our Delaware Dem Members and friends went to the rally, and marched to the Statehouse including Mindy Hedges, Donna Sinclair and her daughter April, Tanya and Michael Bruce, Katherine Kuck, Bernadette (Bernie) Dodeci, Greta Bemiller. These are the ones we knew about, so please let us know if you were there, and we certainly will mention you in the next newsletter.

One Ohio Democrat is hoping to turn that enthusiasm into legislation. U.S. Rep. Joyce Beatty’s “SAFER Now Act” would impose a series of gun control provisions in line with the demands of student organizers. She says the Columbus March for Our Lives inspired her.

“Watching them refer to their generation as the generation where you have to dodge and duck a bullet, be afraid to go to school, as an adult and a public servant—an elected official—I felt I had to join them,” Beatty said.

The measure, H.R. 5410, includes student policy demands such as banning assault weapons and bump stocks and expanding background checks, as well as new ideas like federal grants for gun buy backs. It would also increase prohibitions on firearm trafficking and close the gun show loophole.

Washington, DC Rally:



The context for the Central Ohio rally was the rally in Washington D.C., where hundreds of thousands of youth and their supporters stood up for gun safety, a number added to rallies across the nation and around the world, including Delaware County Democratic Party member Cathi Kulik and her daughter Lauren (left).

Only the young people spoke at the D.C. rally, and their presentations were inspiring. They also inspired critiques. In a March 26 CNN interview, Former Senator Rick Santorum said the kids should take responsibility for their own safety, like learning CPR. Local gun rights advocate Eric Delbert suggested on Columbus station WSYX TV that gun rights advocates need to be part of the discussion. He also said that teens were being manipulated and are simply puppets and not the ones initiating the demonstrations. He doesn't know teens very well. How do adults get over a million kids to do what they're told?

This children's crusade isn't the first time young people have had a pivotal role on public policy. Civil rights were advanced by the activity of young people. John Lewis, inspired by the Civil Rights movement as a child, turned inspiration into action as a college student.

In a March 26, 2018 obituary of Linda Brown, the *New York Times* recounted how the landmark 1954 Supreme Court decision, *Brown vs. Board of Education* was sparked by the courage of the then nine-year-old when she was refused admittance to a white school in Topeka, Kansas. Another child, six-year-old Ruby Bridges, was the first child to integrate a white Southern Elementary school on November 14, 1960. The event was memorialized in the 1963 Norman Rockwell painting which appeared on the cover of *Life* magazine in its January 14, 1964 edition.

Student organizers demand change and will not stop until politicians are held fully accountable for the catastrophes their policies have created.

See more pictures on the [DCDP Facebook page](#).

Did You Know...

Donations to current Ohio members of Congress made by the National Rifle Association's political action committee.

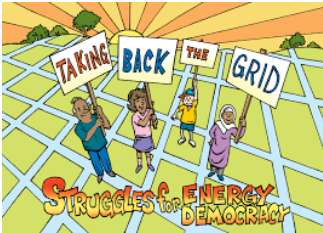
Member of Congress	NRA \$	Rep. Jim Renacci, R-Wadsworth	\$16,400
Rep. Steve Chabot, R-Cincinnati area	\$70,950	Rep. Bill Johnson, R-Marietta	\$14,400
Rep. Steve Stivers, R-Columbus area	\$27,800	Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Champaign County	\$13,500
Rep. Mike Turner, R-Dayton area	\$21,995	Rep. Bob Gibbs, R-Holmes County	\$10,000
Rep. Bob Latta, R-Bowling Green	\$20,650	Rep. Dave Joyce, R-Bainbridge Township	\$9,500
Rep. Tim Ryan, D-Niles area	\$19,996	Rep. Brad Wenstrup, R-Cincinnati area	\$7,000
Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio	\$19,800	Rep. Warren Davidson, R-Miami County	\$2,000

Source: Cleveland.com, February 23, 2018



DelaDems in the News

Our own [Corinne Lyman](#) had a letter published in the Columbus Dispatch on April 16th. Her message was in response to another letter writer who accused the Parkland students of unknowingly becoming "ingenuous sycophants of far-left liberal big donors to the Democratic National Committee". Corinne countered that 88% of Americans now support universal background checks and that corporations are lining up to do their part in helping limit gun sales to those under 21 and ensuring background checks are performed. Read the complete letter [here](#).



Energy Democracy

As consumers, our only real ability to have freedom of choice and energy independence is to produce our own. The traditional way to generate electricity is with a few large power plants owned by regional monopolies. A better way is to use a lot of smaller generators, distributed throughout the utility grid network. This is called distributed power. Distributed power sources (such as rooftop solar) give consumers greater freedom and control of their own power needs.

Distributed power sources also improve our national security. Large power plants, regardless of type, are more vulnerable to terrorism and to natural disasters. If a large power plant is destroyed, electrical service to a large area can be disrupted. Distributed power sources and micro-grids can keep homes and businesses in operation, and even help sustain the utility grid, when a large plant is down. Thus, distributed power improves the overall resilience of our electricity grid. With distributed power, we can keep the lights on!

Solar power, in particular, provides its maximum power during peak use (afternoons), when electricity is most expensive. This decreases the cost of supplying electricity for everyone on the grid. As batteries become cheaper, distributed power sources with energy storage will be able to control the timing of their contribution of surplus power to the grid. This will reduce the need for utilities to use fossil-fueled "peaker" plants, providing significant savings to the utility, cheaper electricity to consumers, and cleaner air and water for public health.

Roof-top solar does not reduce the amount of land available for agriculture and for other uses, unlike the large utility-scale solar arrays and traditional power plants. Utility solar is cheaper to install than roof-top solar, but the benefits derived from it are also less. Roof-top solar also connects to your service behind your meter and doesn't require transmission and distribution.

A recent report from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory estimates that roof-top solar alone could provide 40% of America's electricity. But there are political forces trying to keep this from happening. The fossil fuel companies and utilities that have made lots of money using traditional methods do not want to change, and they have a powerful influence over our state and national politicians. We must be vigilant to ensure that laws and rules are not changed to give fossil fuels and centralized power sources an unfair advantage in the marketplace.

Article by contributing writer: David Carpenter, delawarecountysolar@gmail.com



Precinct Representatives
Support Voting Efforts

During the 2016 Presidential campaign, David Carpenter was a canvasser for Hillary who made a special request. He wanted to work his own precinct. He knocked on the doors of all those in his precinct who were identified as likely Democratic voters. After the election, David and his wife Judy continued to develop relationships within their precinct by inviting their neighbors to a Blue Block gathering at their home. In the spring of 2018, Judy joined some other women at our HQ on a First Friday and sent post cards to the women in her precinct with a special invitation to support the women candidates running this year. As a direct result of the postcard outreach, the UAW will be donating \$400 to "the women on the postcard" to support their campaigns.

Another success story of precinct organizing is Nadine Cox, who was very active in the Hillary campaign, and subsequently reached out to her precinct allies via knocking on doors and creating a special closed group on Facebook.

Mindy Hedges, also an active volunteer on the Hillary campaign, mailed invitations to the Democrats in Radnor Township, and held two meetings in her home, while garnering relationships with Dems in her precinct. They now have a Facebook page, and another member held a gathering in her home as well.

The bottom line for precinct representative is to be the connection between the DCDP and your precinct. Come to DCDP meetings and bring input from your neighbors and reach out to your neighbors to keep them informed about the activities of the DCDP. This is how we will be part of the blue wave.

How many Democrats do YOU know in YOUR precinct? Find out by going to the [Voter Reports](#) area on the the Board of Elections website at www.delawareboe.org. We are everywhere in Delaware County!

Submitted by Peg Watkins

New Polls Show Dems Advantage

Right now, Democrats are leading in battlegrounds all across America – including in states like Michigan and Wisconsin, which helped put Donald Trump in the White House and whose gerrymandered district maps made Paul Ryan the Speaker of the House.

New polling of our battleground states shows:

Florida	New Hampshire	Michigan	Wisconsin	Pennsylvania
45-37	47-35	42-31	46-38	47-37

Source: Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, March 29, 2018

<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #4a86e8; color: white; text-align: center; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> Did You Know... </div>	<p>There are seven contested Democratic Central Committee seats for the Primary on May 8, 2018</p>		
	Precinct	Candidate	Candidate
	Delaware City 3-E	Lynda Behan	Cory Hoffman
	Liberty D	Brad Shimp	Jana Thomas
	Liberty E	Barbara McBride	Norma Schmansky
	Liberty L	Liz Day	Mehar Ansari Beg
	Orange T	Helen Cho	Stephen Schottel
	Powell B	Brian Jaffe	Heather Karr
	Westerville City A	Catherine Kulik	Eileen Kolman



Central Committee Meeting News and Getting Involved

Report on Central Committee Meeting of April 19th, 2018:

There was a special atmosphere in a crowded DCDP headquarters this past Thursday as Chair Ed Helvey brought the Central Committee meeting to order. Most, if not all, of the attendees were aware that this was Ed’s last meeting as County Chair as he plans to step down from his Chairman position in June. We’ll talk more in the next issue about Ed’s many achievements over his 13 years as Leader of the DCDP.

The meeting on Thursday was brimming with guest speakers. First we heard from Louise Valentine, State Senate candidate for the 19th district. Louise continues to engage and charm audiences with her poise, wit, and knowledge. She reminded us of her background, her impressive academic record at Ohio State and professional career, her twin boys, and of course her decision almost a year ago to run against the likely Republican candidate, Andy Brenner. Taking questions from the audience, mostly about education, Louise had a chance to reinforce her three-prong platform of living-wage jobs, quality education, and affordable healthcare.

Cory Hoffman was up next. Looking admittedly a bit scruffy, the tax attorney running as the State House candidate for the 67th district had just finished work on his busy tax season. Cory wasted little time in energizing the room by reminding people that yard signs and money were not the most important things in asserting oneself as a candidate. Invoking historical political leaders, he emphasized the ability to connect with constituents about the importance of promoting and maintaining democratic principles.

Following Cory was the more understated Indu Rajan, who brought a calm sense of steadiness and sophistication in her statements to reinforce her message of efficiency and fiscal responsibility that she will bring as the Delaware County Auditor.

After the candidates was a presentation about the Delaware County Board of Election website by Deputy Director Anthony Saadey. He demonstrated some of the key voter utility features of the website, and focused on the reporting function that allows users to generate precinct level reports for the preferred Party (Democratic of course), and to output reports in “walking list” format.

Then it was time for the committee reports, which included:

- **Membership:** we are still lagging our 2017 numbers! *Please go to the [website](#) to make your donation if you haven't already done so, or [download the form](#) from the website and send in a check.*
- **Fundraising:** a reminder about our 'Catch a Rising Star' event to be held at the Scioto Reserve Country Club on July 24th
- **Communications:** an announcement about an upcoming “Dare to Share” campaign, challenging email recipients to forward the email encouraging support for Issue 1 to ten other Ohioans on their email lists

Motion: There was a recommendation that the DCDP endorse the uncontested candidates in OH. After a short discussion there was a motion to endorse the candidates; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously by the membership.

And finally, there was a surprisingly harmonious group rendition of Happy Birthday, as we celebrated Ed Helvey's 30th-something birthday. Some rich cake was served as the festivities concluded on a very tasty note.

Reminder: Central Committee meeting minutes are posted on the [website](#) each month.

Sign-up/Renew your Party Membership:

While the Party operates on volunteer support, we do have actual costs that are required to maintain day-to-day operations. Please go to our [DCDP Membership](#) area to sign-up for or renew your Party membership.

'Like' and Interact with us on Facebook:

Communicate with our active membership and get the most up-to-date information.

<https://facebook.com/ohiodeladems>

Attend a Central Committee Meeting:

The county-wide Central Committee meets the third Thursday every month, 7:30pm, and is open to all Democrats and Progressives. It is held at 12½ N. Sandusky St. Delaware, Ohio 43015.

Check the [website](#) for volunteer opportunities

Central Committee Membership - Opportunity to Make a Difference

An interested candidate can always request an at-large seat on the Delaware County Democratic Party Central Committee. If you are interested in serving, contact the central office for more information: Phone: (740) 363-7500; email: chair@ohiodeladems.org. You can always get more information on our [website](#) on how to file for candidacy.



Become Part of the Solution

What: Early Voting

What: Now until May 7, 2018; 8am-7pm until May 4th Mon-Fri only; Sat., May 5th 6am-4pm, Sun., May 6th 1pm-5pm, Mon., May 7th 8am-2pm

Where: Delaware County Board of Elections, 2079 U.S. Hwy 23 N, Delaware, OH 43015 (next to Big Lots)
[Delaware County Board of Elections Website](#)

What: Indivisible 15 Annual Meeting

When: Thursday, April 26, 6pm - 8pm

Where: [Columbus Metropolitan Library](#), 96 S. Grant Ave., Columbus, OH 43215
[Indivisible District 15 Annual Meeting](#)

What: Interfaith March for Peace & Justice - Columbus

When: Sunday, April 29, 4pm - 6pm

Where: [Genoa Park](#), Columbus, OH 43215

[Interfaith March for Peace & Justice – Columbus](#)

What: Democracy In Action

When: Tuesday, May 1, 6pm - 8pm

Where: 6500 Busch Blvd, Ste 129, Columbus, OH 43229 United States
[League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus](#)

What: Young Dems Meeting

When: Wednesday, May 2, 7pm – 8pm

Where: Delaware Democratic Headquarters, [12 1/2 N. Sandusky St., Delaware, Ohio 43015 \(map\)](#)

What: Rally for Reform

When: Saturday, May 5, 1pm - 3pm

Where: Hilliard City Hall, 3800 Municipal Way, Hilliard, OH 43026
[Rally For Reform](#)

What: Gun Violence Symposium - Columbus Chapter of National Organization of Women (NOW)

When: May 5 @ 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Where: [Grandview Heights Public Library](#), 1st Ave, Columbus, OH 43212 United States
[NOW Gun Violence Symposium](#)

What: Election Day

When: Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Where: Your local precinct polling location (not sure where it is? Go [here](#) and enter your address)

What: Ohio Young Democrats Convention

What: Saturday, May 12, 10am - 4pm

Where: 939 Goodale Blvd., Columbus, Ohio 43212-3824 ([Show Map](#))
[Ohio Young Dems Convention](#)

What: Central Committee Orientation/Welcome Breakfast

What: Saturday, May 19, 8:30am

Who: DCDP Central Committee Members

Where: Delaware Township Hall, 2590 Liberty Road, Delaware, Ohio

What: Reorganization of the Delaware County Democratic Party

When: Thursday, June 7, 2018, 7:30

Where: Willis Education Center, 74 West William Street, Delaware, Ohio

What: DCDP July 'Catch a Rising Star' Fundraiser (Save the Date)

When: July 24th, 7pm - 9pm

Where: Scioto Reserve Country Club

Who: Steve Dettelbach, candidate for Ohio Attorney General, will be our featured speaker

What: Special 12th District Congressional Election

When: August 7, 2018

Where: Your local precinct polling location (not sure where it is? Go [here](#) and enter your address)

The *Delaware Directions* Newsletter is written, designed, and assembled each month by members of the DCDP Communications Committee, along with contributing writers.

Brian Jaffe	Publisher/Writer
Mindy Hedges	Editor/Writer
Bertie Dell	Editorial Consultant/Writer
Ed Helvey	Adviser/Contributor
David Carpenter	Contributor
Peg Watkins	Contributor