

The Survey



Official Publication -- Pennsylvania
Federation of Democratic Women

Spring 2007

Michele Bortner, D.Ed., President

PFDW 80th Annual Convention

"All Roads Lead To The White House"

June 21 -24 2007

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Allentown, PA

The Democratic Women of Lehigh and Northampton Counties look forward to welcoming you to Allentown PA for the 80th Annual Convention of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women. Dynamic speakers and fun events are in the works and we hope to entertain and inspire you for the year ahead. Important information for the convention is as follows:

HOTEL: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 904 Hamilton Street, Allentown PA 18101. To make reservations, call (610) 433-2221 and tell them you are with the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women. The room rate is \$97.90 per night including taxes for a Single, Double, Triple or Quad. Parking rate is \$6.00 per night. Deadline for reserving rooms at this rate is May 23, 2007.

THURSDAY NIGHT "ALL LOCAL ROADS LEAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE": We are beginning our Convention with a traditional Lehigh Valley dinner – come and enjoy our local cuisine and meet our local elected officials, and receive samples of some of our local "goodies". Following dinner, we'll be holding the first annual PFDW Pajama Party. Prizes will be given to winners in several categories.

FRIDAY NIGHT "ALL STATE ROADS LEAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE": This is the night we will invite our Statewide elected officials. They will join us in the celebration of Pennsylvania being a BLUE state. This will be our official BLUE dinner. We'll have blue decorations, blue music, and everyone is asked to dress in BLUE. Even some of the food will be in keeping with the theme (dress appropriate!).

SATURDAY NIGHT "ALL NATIONAL ROADS LEAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE": Saturday night will also be a celebration of our Federation's 80th Anniversary – and the traditional symbols are diamonds and pearls. So, please come in your very best. A national speaker will be invited to this dinner.

SUNDAY MORNING "FAREWELL BRUNCH": We'll join together at this final event to continue networking, install new officers, plan for the future, and leave energized for the upcoming elections.

Please make note of the following information:

PROGRAM BOOKLET: The order form for submitting ads for the convention program book is included in this publication. The program book is an important part of the convention. This is where you will find the final schedules and details of the convention. It is important that we collect ads to finance this project. Please make copies of the enclosed forms and distribute them to as many elected officials, businesses, friends and club members as you can. For additional details see the form or contact Sandi Vulcano, 531 Philadelphia Road, Easton, PA 18042, (610) 253-0696, eastonpa97@aol.com.

AUCTION: The annual PAC Auction will be held after dinner on Thursday evening. There will also be a silent auction on Saturday Night. The money raised at these events will be used to help candidates seeking elected positions. It is requested that all gifts have a value of no less than \$25.00. Gifts will be collected during registration and should have the names of donors, district number and value attached. For additional information regarding the Auction, contact Joanne Messenlehner, 40 Schoeneck Ave, Nazareth, PA 18054, (610) 759-5547, or by email, joannemess@hotmail.com.

DOLLAR GIFTS: We will once again be having the DOLLAR GIFT TABLE and are asking everyone to remember to bring at least 10 (NEW USED) one-dollar+ wrapped gifts to be collected during registration. Times for Sales of the Dollar Gifts will appear in the program book. For additional information please contact Norma Strouse, 1950 Hall Street, Allentown, PA, 18103, (610) 798-7056.

WALK-A-THON: The Annual Walk-A-Thon serves as the primary fundraiser for the PAC. Please support the Walk-a-thon by circulating and collecting as many pledges as possible. If you are unable to walk, we will arrange for a substitute walker. Remember you do not have to be a PFDW member to participate in this event. For additional information please contact Maggie Hilbert, 3940 Lilac Road, Allentown, PA 18103, (610) 439-8930

BASKET RAFFLE: Our raffle this year will feature very colorful prizes. Each District will be assigned a color and asked to put together a basket or prize package with a minimum value of \$50.00 using the assigned color scheme. Baskets will be collected during registration, and should indicate who the donors are and have a list of enclosed items attached. Raffle tickets will be distributed to Regional Directors and Board Members. If you have not received tickets, want to donate a basket or want to return stubs please contact Linda Minger, 2320 Honeysuckle Rd., Allentown, PA 18103, (610) 791-3290, lindam@iitllc.com

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Please note that Election of Officers will be held on Saturday, June 23, 2007 and to be eligible to vote Per Capita Dues must be received by March 15, 2007. Delegate information must be returned on time. Election will be for President, 6 Vice Presidents, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

BUSINESS SESSIONS: The opening business session will be held on Friday June 22, 2007. Nominations for Officers will be made from the floor during this meeting. To be eligible for nomination, the candidate must be a registered Democrat and a member in good standing with the Federation. No member shall be nominated without her consent. If the member nominated is not present, her consent must be in writing.

The convention committee looks forward to seeing you in Allentown in June and hopes that you will take some time to enjoy our city. The hotel is located in the downtown area. Information on local attractions and events will be available at registration. If you require any additional information please contact your host committee.

80TH EDITION PROGRAM BOOK ADVERTISING FORM

Please complete form and mail along with your camera ready ad and check payable to:

PFDW 2007 CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Mail to: Sandi Vulcano

531 Philadelphia Road

Easton, PA 18042

(610) 253-0696

eastonpa97@aol.com

DEADLINE FOR AD: MAY 23 2007

PURCHASED BY: _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

AUTHORIZED BY _____

The above named has authorized advertising in the PFDW's 80th Annual Convention Program Booklet

PFDW MEMBER WHO SOLD AD _____

TELEPHONE _____ DISTRICT _____

PLEASE CHECK THE AD SIZE YOU WISH TO PURCHASE

_____ full page \$100	_____ inside front cover \$175
_____ half page..... \$50	_____ inside back cover..... \$175
_____ quarter page..... \$25	_____ outside back cover \$250
_____ booster..... \$10	_____ patron \$2

Sizes of ads are as follow:

Full page: 5"x 8" Half page: 5" x 4" Quarter page: 5"x 2"

Booster: 1 Line

Patron: 1 Name

WALK – A – THON

Name of Participant

Name of Club/District

SPONSOR

AMOUNT

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Tentative Schedule

Thursday June 21, 2007

1:00 – 5:00 PM	Registration
2:00 – 3:00 PM	Regional Directors Meeting
4:00 – 5:00 PM	Executive Board Meeting
6:00 – 7:00 PM	Welcome Reception - cash bar
7:00 – 10:00 PM	“All State Roads Lead to the White House” Dinner & PAC Auction
10:00 – 12:00 PM	1 st Annual PFDW Pajama Party

Friday June 22, 2007

7:45 – 8:45 AM	Breakfast Buffet
8:00 – 10:00 AM	Registration
9:00 – 11:00 AM	Opening Business Session & Nominations of Officers
11:00 – 12:00	New Member Orientation
11:00 – 11:30 AM	Dollar Gift Sale
12:00 – 2:00 PM	Regional Directors Luncheon
2:00 – 4:00 PM	Workshops
6:00 – 7:00 PM	Reception – cash bar
7:00 – 10:00 PM	“All State Roads Lead to the White House” Dinner
10:00 – 12:00 PM	Hospitality Room

Saturday June 23, 2007

7:00 – 9:00 AM	Walkathon
8:30 – 10:30 AM	Registration
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Breakfast
10:00 – 11:00 AM	Workshops
11:00 - 11:30 AM	Dollar Gift Sale
12:00 – 2:00 PM	Scholarship Luncheon
2:00 – 3:00 PM	Workshops
3:00 – 5:00 PM	Election of Officers
6:00 – 7:00 PM	Candidates Reception
7:00 – 10:00 PM	“All National Roads Lead to the White House” 80 th Anniversary Celebration Dinner Silent Auction and Raffle Drawing
10:00 – 11:00 PM	Hospitality Room

Sunday June 17, 2007

9:00 – 10:00 AM	Closing Session & Installation of New Officers
10:00 – 11:30 AM	Farewell Brunch

President's Message Spring, 2007

The November elections brought many victories and many surprises. We were pleased to have our Governor Ed Rendell and our own Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll overwhelmingly reelected! The Senate witnessed the electorate throwing out key Republican leaders for new blood in the Pennsylvania Senate. It appeared as if the Democrats would take control of the Pennsylvania House but that was short lived. However, the strategy developed by Representative Bill DeWeese and the rest of our Democratic leadership is proving successful in Democrats still having a strong voice in the House.

We celebrated the victory of Bob Casey, Jr. as our new United States Senator. Many women joined the celebration with Casey family and friends on January 4, 2007 in Washington, DC as Bob took office. Many notables were seen at the events and it was an exciting time for all. While in DC, I had the opportunity, as PFDW President, to join Nancy Pelosi, our first Woman Speaker in the United States House of Representatives, for a Celebration Tea with hundreds of women from across the country and the Pelosi family. It was easy to see why Madame Speaker has been so successful in her political career. She is an exceptional leader!

We now look forward to the May primary election and hope you will work diligently with us to elect Democrats to the bench for Superior and Supreme Court.

We also look forward with great anticipation to our Annual Convention to be held at the Crown Plaza in Allentown. Convention Chair, Susan Rutt, and the women of the Lehigh Valley have an exciting conference planned for us replete with statewide and national political leaders as we celebrate Pennsylvania as a "Blue State" and prepare to elect the next President of the United States.

In addition, 2007 is the year in which we will elect our new officers to lead the Federation for the next two years. It is an important vote for the direction of our organization. Please make sure your per capita dues are paid so that your club can elect delegates who will be eligible to vote.

It has been my distinct honor to serve as your President for the last four years. It has been a joy to meet many of you and work with you to create the network for women, the moral and financial support for women candidates, and further promote and advance Democratic women and the Democratic Party. I hope to continue to work with all of you as the Past President to continue our mission. In addition, I was recently notified by the National Federation of Democratic Women that the nominating committee

President's Message continued

has nominated me to serve the NFDW as the next 5th Vice President. This opportunity for our state to again be represented as an officer of the national will provide us even a greater national voice on along with the Honorable Ruth C. Rudy, a member of DNC and former President of PFDW, as well as former President of NFDW.

Please feel free to contact me or your regional director should you wish to have me or an officer join you at your local events. Please note my new Email: michelebortner@comcast.net or call my cell at (717) 968-1995.



Senator Bob Casey's Swearing In, January 4, 2007 - *left to right*, Former First Lady Ellen Casey, Michele Bortner, President PFDW, Janet Spleen, PFDW Vice President, Senator Casey

District News

District 3

Monroe County Democratic Women - Seemingly non-stop rainfall that continued from fall 2005 through late spring 2006 in the Northeastern part of Pennsylvania brought devastating flooding that severely damaged many of our members' homes. Despite the challenge of rebuilding family and home, our group of women accomplished much over the past year. Members helped out at the polls during the Primary Election on May 16, 2006, organized a Blood Drive for the American Red Cross-Monroe Chapter on May 18, 2006, and held a tea at the Antoine DuTot Museum and Gallery in Delaware Water Gap honoring retiring Representative Tom Tighe of the Pennsylvania State Assembly-118th District on May 20, 2006.

In June, members participated in a walk benefiting Pocono Area Transitional Housing (PATH) and raffled baskets created with the theme "Feed the Birds, Don't Shoot Them" at the Monroe County Democratic Committee picnic held on Father's Day. Over the summer, a committee of volunteers planned the annual E.R. Brunch commemorating Eleanor Roosevelt that was held September 16. A special presentation was given by Laurie MacDonnell-Gaulke, Actress/Storyteller—"Sit in the Corner and Be a Good Girl-Encountering the Suffragists." Mandy McShane, a freshman entering Pleasant Valley High School in Brodheadsville, PA, won the \$100 face-value savings bond with her essay from a quote by Eleanor Roosevelt entitled "'The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.' My dream is _____ and I would accomplish it by _____." She and her parents were guests of honor at the brunch. Dorothy Lewis was the well-deserved 2006 recipient of the Monroe

County Democratic Woman of the Year award. The year ended with members helping out at the polls at the General Election and much-needed contributions to the campaigns of candidates for PA State Assembly seats—John Siptroth, Bernie Kennedy, and Mike Carroll, the election of our own officers, and a holiday project benefiting Pocono Healthy Communities Alliance with donations towards the purchase of educational kits for its library.

District 4

The Lackawanna County Federation of Democratic Women held their September Meeting at the Green Ridge Club with guest speaker Margie Casey, sister of Senatorial candidate, Bob Casey. She updated us on his campaign and Election Day volunteering was discussed.

At our October meeting we presented Terese Casey, wife of Bob Casey, with \$4,400.00 from the sale of Virtual Bricks to pave Bob's path to Washington. We then held a Mystery Auction to raise money for our PAC Account, over \$800.00 was raised.

The November meeting was held at the new Dunmore Senior Center. Our members were greeted by Mayor Patrick Loughney of Dunmore. In attendance were Congressman Paul Kanjorski and his wife Nancy (an active member of the LCFDW), State Representative Jim Wansacz, State Representative Candidate Ken Smith and State Representative Candidate Frank Shimkus. Our guest speaker was Beryl Hall, who was representing Congressional

District 4 continued

Candidate Chris Carney. Our Club also made a donation of \$100.00 to the American Cancer Society. We make one donation per year to a different charity picked by the membership.

It is an honor to have Bob Casey serve as United States Senator. Congratulations to all of the Democratic Candidates. We are very proud of them.

District 10

The Eastern Clinton County (ECC) Democratic Women held an induction ceremony at the Clinton County Courthouse welcoming a new slate of officers on Tuesday, October 24, 2006.

The former officers include June Almes (President), Karen Elias (Vice President), Kim Coleman (Secretary) and Susan Hanna (Treasurer). Kim Coleman and Karen Elias will continue as Secretary and Vice President, respectively, for another two-year term. Cathy Shope will replace Susan Hanna as Treasurer, and Mary Jane Isenberg will serve as new President of the organization.

Under the leadership of June Almes, outgoing President, the membership of the ECC Democratic Women has tripled over the past four years. The group's treasury has increased as well, permitting contributions to Democratic candidates running for office. The group has also improved internal communications by creating by-laws and a committee structure, initiating an annual dinner and an annual audit, and establishing a tradition honoring senior members who are no longer able to attend the meetings. In addition, the group was able to create closer ties to the Democratic Party and to the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic

Women [PFDW] during this time. In 2006 the ECC group co-sponsored the state convention with the Williamsport Democratic Women. Four women from District 10 were appointed to the PFDW Executive Board, which governs the Democratic Women's Clubs in Pennsylvania.

Mary Jane Isenberg, the new President, is currently director of the Centre / Huntington Tapestry of Health, where she supervises three family planning clinics in these two counties. She was formerly the director of the North Central AIDS Coalition, which served persons living with, and at risk for HIV/AIDS in twelve north central PA counties. She has long been interested in political efforts, having always worked for government-funded agencies that, for the most part, have served community members in need. Her vision for the ECC is to continue to increase membership by recruiting more young women, to focus on issues that impact women in our county, and to support women running for political office, on both local and state levels. She is married to Tim Isenberg and has one son, Ian Lilley, who lives in Williamsport with his wife Maria and her grandson, Jossia

District 13

The clubs in District 13 were very busy this past Fall. They hosted rallies in their respective districts. It was most encouraging and refreshing to see the rallies so well attended and people volunteering to bring about a Democratic victory.

Six members from District 13 attended the convention in June at Williamsport. Those attending: Evelyn Mrsnik, Joyce Fredrick, and Lucille Janisko (East Hills Federated Democratic Women's Club). Betty Johnson and Margaret Jean Ray (Nanty Glo

District 4 continued

Democratic Women's Club). Helen Whiteford Ebensburg Area Federated Democratic Women's Club).

Helen Whiteford was re-elected Regional Director and Evelyn Mrsnik was elected Board Member.

Cambria County Democratic Committee had a booth at the Cambria County Labor Day Week. District 13 clubs staffed the booth. They registered new voters, gave out absentee ballot applications, and distributed campaign literature for candidates.

District 17

Uniontown and Vicinity - The year 2006 was a productive year. At our April meeting we had John Lowery as a guest speaker. He was running for State Representative. He gave an interesting talk and then explained the new voting machines.

In May, our President and Secretary attended the Spring Meeting at the Holiday Inn in Washington, PA.

Our summer picnic was held at the Summit Hotel at the top of Summit Mountain overlooking Uniontown. Dinner was served on the patio. The food was delicious and the view beautiful.

We picked the coldest day in December to ring bells for the Salvation Army.

Our Christmas Party was held on December 13th at Cailigh's Restaurant. We presented a Scholarship check to Mallory Rhodes for \$500.00. Mallory and her family attended the party. We also presented a check for \$200.00 to Jacqueline Fritts, Executive Director of the Crime Victims Fund.

Survey Submission

Regional Directors and other board members or committee chairs who wish to have articles and other information published in the Survey newsletter should now send articles to Susan Notarianni. While email method is preferred, please contact Susan via phone to make sure the article was received. Susan's email address is SNotariann@aol.com. Her phone number is (570) 342-5847. For those who wish to send articles via mail, please leave enough time for any editing and/or retyping. Written articles can be mailed to 321 Lemon Street, Scranton, PA 18508.

Submission Deadline
for next Survey
July 6, 2007

Contact Information

Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Inc.

Box 86
York, PA 17405-0086
Website: www.pfdw.org

The Survey is the official newsletter of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Inc. *The Survey* is dedicated to the ideals and the principles of the Democratic Party and to the promotion of Democratic women to leadership in government and the Democratic Party.

Calendar of Events

May 31 - June 3, 2007

NFDW Annual Convention • Charleston, West Virginia

June 8 - 9, 2007

Democratic State Committee • Sheraton Harrisburg

June 21 - 24, 2007

PFDW Annual Convention • Crown Plaza, Allentown
Executive Board Also Meets

Change of Address: Anyone one who has
an address change should email it to
Patsy Hebor
phebor@ptd.net or by mail,
1553 Monocacy St., Bethlehem, 18018

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