

The Survey



**Official Publication -- Pennsylvania
Federation of Democratic Women**

Winter 2008

Susan Rutt, President

Upcoming Events

March 15

PFDW Board Meeting
Gettysburg, PA

May 28 - June 1

NFDW National Con-
vention
*Albuquerque, New
Mexico*

June 19-22

2008 PFDW
Annual Convention
Altoona

Contact Information

**Pennsylvania
Federation of
Democratic Women, Inc**
1852 South Wood Street
Allentown PA 18103

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.

President's Message

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters of the PA Federation of Democratic Women,

I will begin by extending best wishes to all for a very happy, healthy, prosperous and Democratic new year!

It's been a very busy time. It seems as soon as we ended the 2007 election cycle, we totally immersed ourselves in 2008.

Election night 2007 brought some cause for celebration, certainly statewide as we elected Supreme Court Justices Debra Todd and Seamus McCaffrey and Superior Court Judge Christine Donohue, but also some disappointments. On behalf of the PFDW, I would like to extend warmest congratulations to all the Democrats who were elected, and especially those Federation members who were successful. To those who didn't quite make it this time, we hope you won't give up – it just means we all have to work harder next time around, and as a Federation we intend to do just that.

We ended 2007 with our annual Outstanding Democratic Elected Woman's Luncheon held the first weekend in December in Camp Hill. And what a truly outstanding group of honorees there were who received our three statewide awards: Woman of the Year was presented to Dr. Michele Bortner, who worked so tirelessly for our Federation for a long time, most recently as President for four years, and remains with us as Co-Chair of our Political Action Committee; the Senator Jeanette Reibman Memorial Award was given to one of Pennsylvania's finest Senators and a great friend to our Federation, Senator Connie Williams; finally, our Outstanding Elected Democratic Woman's Award was presented by past honoree Lt. Governor Catherine Baker Knoll to the Honorable Debra Todd. At the time we selected her for the award, she was serving on the PA Superior Court. In November, she made us even prouder when she became the first Democratic woman ever elected to the Supreme Court. On the day of the luncheon, I sat back as the awards were presented and was totally awed by everything these women have accomplished. I was so thrilled they were all with us to accept our awards.

The beginning of January got even better! During a one-week period, I attended swearing-in ceremonies for SIX elected Democratic women from the City to County to State levels. Four were in my own Lehigh County: Allentown City Councilwoman Jeanette Eichenwald, Lehigh County Commissioner Gloria Hamm, Lehigh County Court of Judicial Records Andrea Naugle, and Lehigh County Court of Common Pleas Michele Varricchio. Later that week, nothing could compare to the excitement and dignity in Pittsburgh when Justice Debra Todd took her historic oath of office as Pennsylvania's first Democratic woman elected to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the next day Judge Christine Donohue became the newest member of Pennsylvania's Superior Court. It was an honor to witness all of these swearing ins, and to celebrate these victories. I was also pleased to see many Federation members at all of these events. It was another proud and special moment when our very dear friend and President of the Pennsylvania Superior Court, Judge Kate Ford Elliott, administered the oath of office to Judge Donohue.

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President's Message continued

From there, I joined many of our Federation members at the State Committee meeting in Lancaster, where endorsements were made for Jack Wagner for re-election as our Auditor General and John Morganelli for Attorney General, a position to which we have never elected a Democrat – until this year!

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our Federation's newest club, the Westmoreland Federation of Democratic Women. Its first meeting was in December, and Harriet Ellenberger, who attended our state convention in June, was elected its President. All of us in the Federation congratulate this new chapter, and look forward to working with them in the future.

2008 is a most historic time for all of us, no matter how the Pennsylvania Primary will turn out. I encourage all of our members to become involved. There are so many opportunities to volunteer, to organize, to participate, to register new voters and to bring in new members – I am confident it will be a wonderful year for us all, and that we can look forward to a tremendous celebration on November 4.

Susan Rutt,
PFDW President

2008 CONVENTION UPDATE - JUNE 19-22

The Blair County Federation of Democratic Women recently celebrated our first anniversary. So, the new kids on the block are excited and eager to share the beauty of our Allegheny Mountains with Federation members from across the state as we host this year's convention in cooperation with our neighboring counties of Cambria, Huntingdon, Centre and Bedford.

The focus of our convention, which will be held at the "Smoke-free" Ramada Inn in Altoona, will be on the importance of women and the power of our vote. As Pennsylvania was the keystone of the 13 original colonies: Democratic women are the **keystone** of the party!

Our action-packed agenda is still in the planning stages, but we hope to impress all attendees with our motivating speakers, interesting workshops, wonderful food, lively entertainment, and welcoming hospitality.

Pennsylvania boasts several professional baseball teams; as luck would have it, our own **Altoona Curve** will be hosting the **Reading Phillies** on Thursday evening, June 19th. What better way to start our convention than attending an "East/West slugger-fest" at our nationally recognized stadium, The Blair County Ball Park.

The Central Alleghenies area is home to significant historical sites. One option we will offer to participants is a local tour to visit such sites as the world-famous Horseshoe Curve and Baker Mansion.

We hope our enthusiasm will be contagious and that you help us

make the Convention a memorable event for Democratic women and 2008 a powerful year for the Democratic Party.

For more information, contact **Jo Ann Nardelli, Convention Chair** at 814-695-6278 or jnardelli@blairdems.org

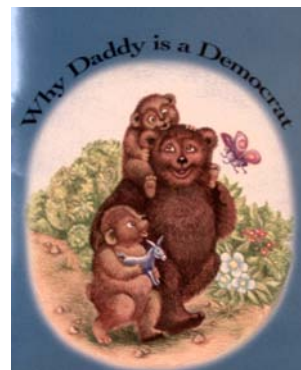
A brief preview of some *special projects* we are working on:

1) Basket Raffle Tickets are here and most of the Federations have received them. Great theme this year is seasons, holidays, etc. We plan to have some memorable baskets, so let's sell as many tickets as possible. Please contact me if you have not received basket raffle tickets yet. Also, if anyone needs more, let me know. They are \$1 apiece or 6/\$5. They come in groups of 12. Those checks are to be made out to **2008 PFDW CONVENTION COMMITTEE**.

2) Our PFDW and Donkey Rhinestone pins are finally here! The price of the pins is only \$15. All women should be proud to wear these beautiful pins to represent our PA Federation of Democratic Women. We will now take your orders & checks so please contact me ASAP.... supplies are limited to 200 pins for now...Checks for this can be made to **2008 PFDW CONVENTION COMMITTEE**.



3) Remember Mommy is a Democrat Book? Well, ladies, we are proud to say that our local Federation is selling "Why Daddy is a Democrat" books. (See picture) The price is \$10.00 a book.... we are taking orders for them also. Don't worry about the shipping. We will take care of that. We just need to know how many you want and the checks can be made out to **PFDW**. I am honored to be part of the ideas in the book & was given acknowledgement as well as mentioned in the back of the book (the only one from Pennsylvania)! The response for this book is great and it is a perfect addition to the Mommy books. So, ladies please email or call me with your orders for that also.



4) A special evening is planned for our Denim & Diamonds Night (Friday) with the appearance and live show of Ricky Lee, recording artist & also opening act for the country group Sugarland. More details will follow.

Order of Protocol For a Club Meeting

PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN FEDERATION COURTESY

Protocol Co-chairs: Harriet Eshleman and Pearl Hilley

GUESTS AND INVITATIONS

If possible, give the guest or speaker two dates to consider and include the following information in the invitation.

Time, place, type of meeting (e.g. luncheon, dinner).

What type of dress attire

If a speech is given and the time allowed.

If invited to conduct a ceremony (invitation, installation), give complete details.

If theme is being used, mention that, too. Ask if there are arrangements they will require.

Offer overnight accommodations if guest is traveling a great distance and suggest she bring along a friend if she is driving. Supply specific information regarding expenses your group will pay; i.e., travel, motel accommodations, speaker's fees ... in short, all financial obligations that will be met by the club

THE VISIT

Be certain someone is there to meet the guest on their arrival. When meeting a guest at plane or train take them first to a place where they can freshen up. If she is to be an overnight guest, first take them to their lodgings. Give them a copy of the printed program. If there is time before the meeting begins, introduce her to some of the members. Escort to the proper seat and see that they are comfortable during the meeting. Never allow guests to stand in line for refreshments. Transportation should be arranged for the guests' departure. Don't forget THANK YOU NOTE written as soon after the visit as possible.

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS

A person known to the audience is PRESENTED, a stranger is INTRODUCED.

The purpose of an introduction is to acquaint the audience with the speaker, as to their background, qualifications, and subject. It should be brief, not more than one minute; do not give the speaker's speech for them. It should include the reason for the talk at this time. Be factual, not gushy; put both the speaker and the audience at ease. Mention the speaker's name at the end.

FLOWERS are a matter of individual group courtesy and custom

A President should never wear a corsage if one is not being given to the honored guest. White is a safe color choice, regardless of the occasion.

At large affairs (with many guests) small corsages may be placed at each guest's place at the head table. The President and honored guest may wear a more elaborate corsage.

Many groups have adopted the custom of making "permanent" or "symbolic" corsages for their guests, accompanied by a note saying a contribution is being made to (name it) in lieu of flowers.

District News

District 1 Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery Counties
Regional Director Dorothy Gallagher
No Article

District 2 Philadelphia
Regional Director Gwen Collins
No Article

District 3 Carbon, Luzerne, Monroe & Schuylkill Counties
Regional Director Carol Nevel

The Monroe County Democratic Women has been following their usual busy schedule of events. On May 31st they sponsored their annual Blood Drive at The Pocono Ambulance Building in Tannersville. The local restaurants donated lunch for The Red Cross Workers. We had 289 donors.

On September 15th we held our 7th Eleanor Roosevelt Brunch. Speakers were, Terese Casey, wife of Pennsylvania Senator Bob Casey, Commissioner Suzanne McCool, and Commissioner-elect Theresa Merli., "A woman is like a teabag...only in hot water do you realize how strong she is.", is our favorite quote of Mrs. Roosevelt.

We donated to and supported three of our members who ran for county commissioner and recorder of wills and deeds.

Our Christmas project for 2007 was providing funds for Pocono Healthy Community Alliance-Family Promise which provides shelter to the homeless.

Thank you to President, Carol Nevel, officers and members for another successful year!

District 4 Lackawanna, Pike & Wayne Counties
Regional Director Diane Dougherty
No Article

District 5 Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna & Wyoming Counties
Regional Director Peggy Ball
No Article

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District 6 Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder & Union Counties
Regional Director Lorie Morrison-Becker
No Article

District 7 Adams, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon & York Counties
Regional Director Janet Spleen

The Lancaster County Democratic Women's Club is proud to celebrate our 80th Anniversary in 2008. We also discovered while going through the archives, that the first Federation Convention was held in Lancaster. We will let everyone know when we have decided on our mode of celebration.

The Endorsement meeting of the Pennsylvania State Democratic Party was held in Lancaster on January 12, 2008 at the Host Resort. There were a record number of attendees and everyone seemed to have a wonderful time.

There were workshops offered to all Democrats all day Friday, the 11th. Friday evening everyone had a great time at the receptions where entertainment was provided. Federation members, Susan Stoltzfus, Lois Herr and Janet Spleen were part of the committee that welcomed Democrats from all over the State of Pennsylvania.

Federation member Lois Herr has been named Executive Director of the Lancaster County Democratic Committee.

District 8 Berks, Lehigh & Northampton Counties
Regional Director Maria Dertinger
No Article

District 9 Cumberland, Franklin, Juniata, Mifflin & Perry Counties
Regional Director Donna Frank
No Article

District 10 Clinton, Lycoming, Potter & Tioga Counties
Regional Director Mary Lou Baldys

The Williamsport Area Women's Democratic Club had its annual holiday dinner for members and guests at the Best Western Lodge in Williamsport on December 12, 2007. Deb Shivetts, Director of Wise Options, the local domestic violence and rape crisis center, presented a history of the program and a description of the services it provides. Ann Kilburn, President, and Mary Lou Baldys, Regional Director, presented a monetary contribution to Ms. Shivetts on behalf of the Club. Members also enjoyed a political trivia game devised by Lori Wingrove.

Members sold Avon products as a fundraiser this fall through Verna Caruso, Club Secretary and part time Avon sales representative. The Club is planning a one day bus trip to New York City on Saturday, April 12, 2008. The cost is \$41.00 per person and provides transportation only. Passenger pickups will be in Avis and Williamsport. Reservation and payment must be made by February 15, 2008. For more information call Lori at (570) 329-3756.

The Eastern Clinton County Democratic Women will hold its annual dinner meeting the last week of February. Clinton County

returned a Democratic majority to the County Commissioners' office in November, 2007.

District 11 Centre, Clearfield, Indiana, & Jefferson Counties
Regional Director Ruth Luse

The Federation of Democratic Women for Indiana County elected new officers for 2008-10. Our president will be Ruth Shirey, vice-president Helen Olechovski Hill, Treasurer Mary Coury, and Secretary Charlotte Sipos. Plans are underway for our Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on February 10th and our Spring Banquet on April 11th. Our congratulations are extended to Patty Evanko elected to serve as Indiana County Commissioner and Becky Medvetz to serve as county auditor.

District 12 Bedford, Blair, Fulton, Huntingdon Counties
Regional Director Edith Weyant
No Article

District 13 Cambria, Somerset & Westmoreland Counties
Regional Director Helen Whiteford

The clubs in District 13 were busy this past fall. Every year the Cambria County Democrats have a booth at the fair beginning Labor Day weekend. The clubs in District 13 staff the booth, in doing so, they pass out campaign material for the candidates presently running, register new voters and handed out Absentee Ballot applications. Ebensburg club took a break and did not meet in the summer. They gear up for the fall election with a picnic at the home of Helen Whiteford, President. The club is so proud to have five of its members re-elected as row officers:

Susan Kuhar – Clerk of Courts

Patty Berkebile – Prothonotary

Andrea Fedore Sims – Recorder of Deeds

Patty Sharbaugh – Register of Wills

Barbara Kline – Treasurer

Ebensburg club ended 2007 with a Christmas party at Off the Rak restaurant. In lieu of a gift exchange, a generous contribution was given to the Veterans home.

District 14 Armstrong, Beaver, Butler & Lawrence Counties
No Regional Director
No Article

District 15 Crawford, Erie, Mercer Venango & Warren Counties
Regional Director Jean Eller
No Article

District 16 Cameron, Clarion, Elk, Forest & McClean County
Regional Director Rose Koch
No Article

District 17 Fayette, Greene & Washington County
Regional Director Lila Ayersman
No Article

District 18 Allegheny County
Regional Director Jean Milko
No Article



**PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN - PAC
2008 CENTURY CLUB**

The **CENTURY CLUB** was founded in order to assist in funding the **Federation's Political Action Committee (PAC)**. It is our sincere hope that all Board Members, Women Legislators, and those of you who are financially capable will renew or begin a Century Club membership, and that challenge of funding additional candidates will be matched by increased participation. This year, as we elect candidates all across Pennsylvania and look forward to 2008, we would like to extend our thanks for your continued support. We would also like to thank our past individual and club members, and encourage you to join again this year. We welcome new members to join in order to assure the Federation's continued financial support to **WOMEN and STATEWIDE CANDIDATES**.

LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP

GOLD CIRCLE - \$1,000

Includes 2008 Century Club Lapel Pin
Four tickets to the Outstanding Elected Democratic Woman Event

SILVER CIRCLE - \$500

Includes 2008 Century Club Lapel Pin
Two tickets to the Outstanding Elected Democratic Woman Event

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE - \$100

Includes 2008 Century Club Lapel Pin

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE PLUS - \$125

Includes 2008 Century Club Lapel Pin
One ticket to the Outstanding Elected Democratic Woman Event

All levels include an individual listing in the Convention Program Booklet

WHEN: Fiscal Year is January 1 to December 31, 2008

***** PLEASE DETATCH AND RETURN WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTION *****

I am enclosing a contribution of \$ _____ for membership in the 2008 PFDW CENTURY CLUB

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

***Checks may be made payable to PFDW-PAC

PLEASE MAIL TO: PFDW, C/O SANDI VULCANO, CHAIRMAN
531 PHILADELPHIA ROAD, EASTON, PA 18042

PLEASE RESPOND BY NOVEMBER 28, 2008. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2008

Eligibility: Any Pennsylvania woman in the junior class of an accredited college or university. Be in academic good standing. Be a registered Democratic voter. Applicant must possess family Democratic Party background and be an active participant in the Democratic Party.

Award: \$1000.00 to be used during senior year. Presentation will be at the Memorial Scholarship Luncheon of the PFDW convention, June 2008, in Altoona, PA.

NAME OF APPLICANT _____

HOME ADDRESS _____
Street City Zip

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

BIRTHDATE _____ YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY _____

MAJOR/MINOR _____ CURRENT GPA _____

ACTIVITIES _____

PLACE REGISTERED TO VOTE _____

WITH THIS APPLICATION SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING:

- I. A ONE PAGE ESSAY EXPLAINING:
 - a. need for this scholarship
 - b. your professional goals
 - c. your Democratic Party activities
 - d. your family's Democratic Party involvement
- II. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM A FACULTY MEMBER IN YOUR MAJOR.
- III. LETTER OF SPONSORSHIP FROM A PFDW CLUB OR MEMBER.

In addition to the above you must submit
A SEALED OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT FROM YOUR
COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR MUST BE MAILED UNDER SEPARATE COVER

Application Deadline
Must be postmarked by May 1, 2008

2008 Per Capita Deadline March 15

It is time once again for all Federated Clubs to submit Per Capita lists, original plus one copy and Dues for members. Lists should be **typed in alphabetical order** by last name and accompanied with **\$3.00** for each member. A complete mailing address including the **city(not abbreviated) and the correct zip code** should also be listed. Make sure to include the **area code** with phone numbers. At the top of the form please give the **correct** name of the Federated Club, County and District. If you do not know your District/Region number please refer to the list below.

Region

1
2
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16
17
18

Counties

Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware
Philadelphia
Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe, Luzerne
Pike, Wayne, Lackawanna
Wyoming, Susquehanna, Bradford, Sullivan
Columbia, Northumberland, Snyder, Union, Montour
Lebanon, Lancaster, Dauphin, York, Adams
Northampton, Lehigh, Berks
Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Cumberland, Franklin
Tioga, Potter, Clinton, Lycoming
Centre, Clearfield, Indiana, Jefferson
Huntingdon, Blair, Bedford, Fulton
Somerset, Westmoreland, Cambria
Butler, Beaver, Armstrong, Lawrence
Warren, Crawford, Erie, Venango, Mercer
McKean, Cameron, Elk, Forest, Clarion
Washington, Green, Fayette
Allegheny

Please indicate the current President, Secretary and Treasurer and include a current email address that can be used to contact the group. You may include email addresses for members, but make sure to indicate what address to use for club correspondence.

Payment and lists (2 copies) must be received by Patricia Smith-Mendsen 522 12th Avenue, Bethlehem PA 18018, or postmarked not later than March 15 2008. If you plan to email the lists it must be received by March 15, 2008 and the payment must be postmarked not later than March 15. Lists can be emailed to pksmith58@hotmail.com

Survey Submission

Regional Directors and other board members or committee chairs who wish to have articles and other information published in the *Survey* should email them to Susan Notarianni at snotariann@aol.com. If you need further information please contact her at 570-342-5847.

Email is the preferred method of submission but articles can be sent to Susan via mail to 321 Lemon Street, Scranton, Pennsylvania 18508. Please allow enough time for any editing and/or retyping.

Anyone who has an address change should email it to Patsy Hebor phebor@ptd.net or by mail 1553 Monocacy St Bethlehem PA 18018

**Submission Deadline
for next Survey
March 31, 2008**

**Visit us at our website:
www.pfdw.org**



Pennsylvania Federation of
Democratic Women
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Bethlehem PA 18018-1930

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