

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF JOHNSTON COUNTY



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The DWNC Annual State Convention

The 61st annual DWNC state convention was held on Saturday, January 22, 2022, via ZOOM. It was a lively, well-attended event hosted by DWNC President Julia Buckner. Inspirational videos, remarks from prominent speakers and candidates, training sessions, awards, and tasty cocktail recipes filled the agenda.

Special Guest included: Governor Roy Cooper, Attorney General Josh Stein, Judge Lucy Inman, Court of Appeals; Kathy Adams, National Federation of Democratic Women, Southern Regional Director; Congresswoman Deborah Ross, Barbara Faison, 2nd VP National Federation of Democratic Women; Judge Gail Adams, Justice Ervin, Sen. Valerie Foushee for Congress, and the Keynote speaker was Chief Justice Cheri Beasley.

Julia Buckner's term as president of our organization has come to an end. We thank Julia for the exceptional professionalism, guidance, and support she provided throughout her term. Julia is proudly transitioning her responsibilities to Elizabeth Godwin who is assuming the new role of DWNC President. We look forward to Elizabeth's leadership as we move forward in turning North Carolina blue!

The Democratic Women of Dare County were the recipients of the 2021 Betty Ray McCain Award for their outstanding efforts in elevating and expanding their chapter's visibility and outreach.

The DWNC recognized Johnston's County's own Sarah Anderson as the '2021 Woman of the Year'! Please reach out and congratulate Sarah for all she's done not only for Johnston County democrats but for North Carolina democrats as a whole!

Sharon Castleberry, Sarah Anderson, Kendally Carlson, Denise Hall, and Timmy Penny each received STARS Awards for their unrelenting work within our local chapter.

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Membership

We Continue to Grow!

We are happy to report that since the beginning of 2022, we do continue to grow. We have two new members, who have never been a part of the DWJC, along with 17 membership renewals. That brings us to a total of 121 members. How fantastic is this?!

Please spread the word among your friends who might not be a member and ask them to join us. Also, we should encourage each other to become more active! So if anyone is interested in helping in any way, please reach out to one of our officers.



Fundraising

Coffee and More!

The coffee sale has been a “kicking” success. We’ve sold 70 bags, and we want to thank you for your support. A big shout out goes to Glenda Apple, Kendally Carlson, Renesha, Sara Anderson, Sheila Whittington and Maureen (the newest addition to the committee).

Our village of women have worked together to make this a pretty easy fundraiser. There's still time to get more. Check our Website or Facebook page for the link.

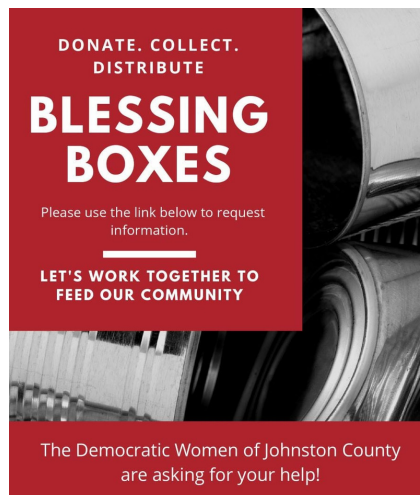


Next up: Pet Photo Contest

Get your pet glamor shots ready! You'll get more details soon. The grand prize is a photo shoot with a professional photographer, our very own DWJC member Michelle Strickland. Her website is Your-image-matters.com

Outreach

Please join us on the third Saturday of every month as we donate, collect and distribute to blessing boxes across our county. Sign ups are available on our website and facebook page throughout each month.



Message From the President

Sheila Whittenton

As was noted in the previous update about the DWNC State Convention, Sarah Anderson, Past President of the DWNC and DWJC, was honored as the DWNC 2021 Woman of the Year. We acknowledge her many contributions to the Democratic Women as well as the Democratic Party. Thank you Sarah for all that you have done and all that you continue to do! I also personally want to congratulate each of our STARS award winners for the work and dedication displayed by each on a daily basis! We appreciate each of you and could not do what we do without you!

Here is Sarah's message as she speaks to the importance that women have and the difference that women make in every election!

Women Make the Difference

In 1960 Terry Sanford ran for the NC governor's office. He realized the value of involving women in his campaign. County to county women formed groups to get out the vote for Terry Sanford and other Democrats up and down the ballot. Of course he was successful in winning the governor's office - and why not? Women make the difference. In 1961 these women's groups formed county Democratic Women's chapters along with the state organization of the Democratic Women of North Carolina (DWNC). The president of the DWNC served as the first vice-chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party (NCDP) until Betty Ray McCain became the first woman to chair the NCDP in 1976.

I share all of this history to say today, 60 plus years later, women are still making the difference in electing Democrats up and down the ticket. A lifelong yellow dog Democrat, my experience in the organized Democratic Party started in 2005 with the Democratic Women of Johnston County (DWJC) and expanded in 2006 with my election to the DWNC executive board. I have continued to serve the DWJC, the DWNC, the JCDP, and the NCDP to present, and everyday I see women leading the way to make a difference in our communities, our counties, and our state. In Johnston County, from Middlesex to Meadow, from Cleveland to Princeton, the DWJC members are building relationships, doing community service, and working on behalf of Democrats. In North Carolina, from Murphy to Manteo, Roanoke Rapids to Whiteville, women across the state are doing remarkable things, living our Democratic values and making a difference.

I challenge every member of the DWJC, members of any other affiliated group, all precinct members to broaden our reach. In a red county like Johnston we are committed to the long term effort to elect more and more Democrats for local office which will happen over time. Right now we can make a HUGE difference for those who are running in statewide races. If we increase our Democratic turnout by just 1% per precinct we can help elect good strong Democrats like Cheri Beasley for US Senate, Lucy Inman for NC Supreme Court, and all the rest who are running for statewide offices.

How does the DWJC do that? We support the Democratic Party's GOTV Building Blue 2022 effort by strategically reaching out to Democratic women who are infrequent voters to build a relationship with them to ensure they go to the polls. It is using all our tools in our toolbox: the Power of the Pen, phone banking, knocking doors, working for candidates, volunteering at the polls, and continuing to be visible in the community. Sixty two years ago, it was women who made the difference for North Carolina, together we can do the same in 2022 and 2024.

Sarah W. Anderson,
2021 DWNC Democratic Woman of the Year
Past DWNC President
Past DWJC President



Democratic Women of Johnston County
PO Box 1064
Clayton NC. 27528

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar!

- DWJC Monthly meeting, 3/17/2022 - Women's History Month - Guest speakers, Sec. of State Elaine Marshall, Judge Lucy Inman, US Senate Candidate, Justice Cheri Beasley
- JCDP County Convention 3/19/2022
- March Blessing Boxes: 3/20/2022
- DWJC Monthly meeting, 4/21/2022
- Early Voting for May Primary begins April 28th thru May 14th - can request absentee ballots now from the Johnston County Board of Elections
- District Convention, Saturday, 5/21/2022

