



DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

October, 2021

How do we win local elections this year? With Math, Science, and Heart!

Elections are contests that are won by the person or persons who get the most votes. Simple math. When there are two candidates for one position, it's easy to see which one wins. But what if there are multiple candidates for multiple positions?

Example: In 2019, Heather Karr was the only Democrat running to be on Powell City Council. Her campaign employed a strategy known as "bullet voting," in which her supporters were asked to vote ONLY for Heather. With three positions open, if votes were given to the other candidates, that would take away from Heather's chances of being in the top three. By voting ONLY for Heather, and for no other candidate, it **doubles the impact of your vote**. In her successful election to Powell City Council, Heather Karr was the top vote getter.

In this year's local elections, some areas have multiple Democratic candidates, while others have one or none. If you have one Democratic candidate and three Republican candidates, you don't need to vote for any of the Republicans unless there is a clear reason to prefer them to the others.

Science: Recent research conducted by Donald Green and Alan Gerber of Columbia and Yale Universities provides empirical evidence that, "Across a number of mobilization experiments, one consistent finding is that more personalized messages are more effective in mobilizing voters." Other studies have supported the strength of "relational organizing" as the most effective way to reach out to voters. (For more on this, read their book, [Get Out the Vote](#), now in its fourth edition. An article in the Nov/Dec 2020 issue of [Mother Jones](#) also cited relational organizing as the way to reinvent traditional campaigning.

In Delaware County, we have created regions that allow smaller groups of our voters to work more closely with each other. In September, each region met with their local candidates to determine how best to support them. Some meetings were in person, others by zoom, but in each case, Democrats were getting to know their like-minded neighbors.

In addition, many Central Committee members have been working their precincts to make sure their voters are informed about Democratic candidates. Whether by postcard, email, letter, or newsletter, precinct reps can establish themselves as the go-to person for election information.


Finally, we need the hearts of people willing to step up and be candidates, and the caring support of volunteers who spend hours helping in many ways. The goals of the Delaware County Democratic Party are to get Democrats elected, energize our local party, and challenge the Republican domination of Delaware County. As voting starts, and we head toward that last weekend before Election Day, remember the importance of voting for

Democratic candidates and contacting your friends, neighbors, and others you know to Get Out the Vote!

We have excellent local candidates, and wonderful volunteers to support them. Thank you all for working hard against the odds.

Peg

Delaware County Democratic Party News

 **Regular Business Meeting:** Our next meeting is **Thursday, Oct. 21 at 7:00pm**. Due to recent surge in Covid cases, **we will not be able to meet in person, so we will once again be on Zoom. Executive Committee members will receive an email with the Zoom link so that they will be able to vote.** All other party members as well as the general public are welcome to attend on Facebook.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee

The committee is reviewing our existing Constitution and By-Laws to recommend changes and improvements. Our current Constitution was promulgated in 1989. As part of our review, we think it important that a couple “big picture” issues – fundamental to our Party’s organization and structure – should be debated and decided by the full Executive Committee.

At the October Executive Committee meeting we will briefly discuss these two important questions and we will vote on them at the November meeting.

- Should we continue to elect our Central Committee every two years, or should we change to a four- year cycle?
- Should we continue to have an inclusive Executive Committee that includes all elected Central Committee members, plus additional at-large members, or should we have a smaller Executive Committee to operate the day-to-day functions of the County Party?

Both issues currently are being discussed on our Executive Committee Facebook page and your participation will be welcome. If you wish, you may email your questions and comments to me at schmajo@aol.com.

Candidate Support Committee Update: The executive committee voted last month to publicly endorse Tracy Davidson and Kristy Meyer (Westerville School Board) and Melanie Farkas (Liberty Township Trustee), and ten additional candidates were given financial support. These candidates need much more than our endorsement or money--they need YOU! They need help with filling out postcards, delivering door hangers and reaching out to them. Give them a call today to see what they need. Being active in our local elections gains attention of those in next year's Senate and Representative elections. Let's do this!

Regional Meetings: September Update

In September, each region of the county held a meeting so that they could get to know their local candidates and plan how best to support them. You can read about each of these meetings on our [website](#).

Volunteers Greet Large Crowds at 2021 County Fair

Delaware County Democrats greeted visitors September 18-25 at a surprisingly well-attended Delaware County Fair. Our usual spot in the Merchants Building was staffed by a team of cordial volunteers for an average of 11 hours a day throughout the entire week.

During the week of community engagement, we proudly represented Delaware Democrats on a turf that sometimes appeared daunting. Visitors picked up campaign literature, voter registration forms, and contact information for our local party. We received many thumbs-up gestures and compliments like, "Glad you are here." One Republican shirted visitor even shared that we are making too much of an impact in Delaware County. Visitors of opposing views made somewhat harsh remarks about taxes, Afghanistan, gun rights, religion and patriotism, but our volunteers responded to those and other challenges with knowledge and grace.

Many thanks to Emma Jones and Julie Houston for organizing and recruiting the dozen or so individuals who set-up, staffed, and closed down the booth. Next year will bring more activity as several state, county, and national offices will be on the ballot.

Is it worth it to do outreach at a seemingly Republican event? We say yes! We care about our voters, our candidates, and spreading the truth. Woody Allen said that "80% of success is showing up." We topped that 100% of the time.

What's On Your Ballot?

Early Voting has started with in-person absentee voting taking place at the Delaware County Board of Elections, 2081 US Hwy 23 North in Delaware. This is the former location of Big Lots. Township Trustee Boards, school boards, cities, and villages will all see candidates on the ballot, and many of the names will be people you know! Contact your region for specific information.

Delaware County voters also have three county-wide issues: Levies for Preservation Parks, tis seeking a 0.4 mill levy for the purpose of acquiring land for future parks, the Board of Developmental Disabilities, and the Delaware-Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board. These levies are all renewals, and one is even a reduction!

There are a few precincts in Delaware County that are part of the city of Columbus, where there is a clean energy ordinance on the ballot. Voters in Ashley, Berlin Township, Oxford Township, Elgin Local School District, and Tri-Rivers JVS will all have tax levies to vote on.

Local elections determine who will be in charge of the issues and circumstances we deal with on a daily basis, so don't forget to vote! Absentee ballots are being mailed out now and you can print an absentee request form from the Board of Elections [website](#).

Delaware-Morrow Mental Health Levy: The Delaware-Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board has placed a levy on the Nov. 2 ballot. The Board is asking voters to support a renewal of its current one mill property tax with an additional 0.5 mill, bringing the new total to 1.5 mills. This would cost homeowners \$41.56 for each \$100,000 of property value. The organization funds behavioral health programs and services in Delaware and Morrow Counties and these levy funds will account for about 80% of their revenue for the year. Our


Executive Committee will vote on whether to endorse this levy at our October meeting. Read more about the levy [here](#).

Looking Ahead – Elections 2022

As we move into the active cycle of this year's election, we don't want to lose sight of future elections. In 2022, we will elect or re-elect all of our Central Committee members (now 167 precincts). This is the easiest election for a Democrat to win in Delaware County. Filing Deadline to file is **February 2**; it will be here sooner than you think.

We have already met two of our candidates for Ohio Governor, as well as Tim Ryan, candidate for the US House of Representatives. Stay tuned to meet more candidates as they are identified for the offices of Ohio House and Senate, as well as Secretary of State, State Attorney General, Auditor and Treasurer.

There will be local elections again in 2023, and these will include many COUNTY offices. You may know that there has not been a Democrat elected to a county office since the 1970s. As you are getting to know Democrats in your region, your neighborhood, your precinct, keep in mind that we need good candidates for these offices.

 **Anti-Racism Book Club:** We are reading "Me & White Supremacy" by Layla Saad over the next few months. Learn more about the book [here](#). If you'd like to join the book club, [contact us!](#)

 **Democratic T-Shirts:** Are you interested in a Democratic T-shirt? We have ordered a new supply of these. Contact Joydeep at joydeep@ohiodeladems.org.

Upcoming Events:

- Oct. 21 - Regular Business Meeting
- Oct. 22 - Fourth Friday in Westerville
- Nov. 2 - General Election
- Nov. 5 - First Friday in Delaware
- Feb. 2 - Deadline to File Petition for Central Committee 2022-24

Email info@ohiodeladems.org to volunteer at any of these events.



[Energize Local Democrats](#)

Together, we can make a difference. We want to bring local Democrats together in Delaware County and energize them into action.



[Get Democrats Elected](#)

Many people want to do something but don't know what. There are many opportunities to support local candidates running for office and we are here to help!



[Challenge Single Party Rule](#)

Republicans have long been in power in our county, but things are changing. We are getting Democrats elected and bringing progress to our area!



Join us!

Membership to our county party is more than just a word. We are a community of like-minded Democrats passionate about bringing change to our community and electing Democrats. [Read more here](#) about how to become a member if you aren't one yet. We'd love to have you!



Get Involved

Our party meets to discuss our priorities and organize to meet our goals. There are also candidate events, precinct and regional organizing and community events. Check out our [news](#) and [events](#) pages to see what is happening -- and be sure to keep reading this newsletter for updates.

We hope to see you around soon. If you have additional questions or insights, contact our chair, [Peg Watkins](#).





Paid for by the Democratic Party of Delaware County
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