



## Delaware County Democratic Party News

### Message from the Chair, Peg Watkins

Volunteers in the Delaware County Democratic Party continue to work many hours to support our candidates and organization, representing our party positively in our communities. Our party is organized into functional committees as well as geographically by region. Active committees put in many hours and report each month to our Executive Committee. Scan on down to read about the committees that most interest you.

- Anti-Racism
- Candidate Support
- Communications
- Constitution and By-Laws
- Events & Fundraising
- PROD (Precinct and Regional Organization and Development)
- Scholarship Committee (one of our oldest working committees)

### May 3 Primary - Voting has started!

We have a printable [Sample Ballot](#) available on our website. Precinct Reps, please read the PROD report below to see how you can reach out to Democrats in your neighborhood.

### Party Organization in May or early June

Shortly after the results of the May Primary are certified, those elected to the Central Committee of the Delaware County Democratic Party will meet to organize the party anew. We will elect five officers, and follow other procedures contained in our new Constitution and By-Laws. If you are interested in running for any of the following offices, you should start campaigning now, and provide the [Communications Committee](#) with a brief biographical/campaign statement to share.

Known candidates at this time are:

Peg Watkins for Chair  
Joydeep Gupta for Vice Chair  
Holly Hanson for Vice Chair  
Corey McCaffery for Secretary

### Anti-Racism Committee

Update from Jenny Yoder ([yoder\\_jenny@yahoo.com](mailto:yoder_jenny@yahoo.com)) & Sarah Narayana ([saharnarayana@gmail.com](mailto:saharnarayana@gmail.com)):

The antiracism committee is strongly opposed to HB 616, Ohio's version of the "Don't Say Gay" bill. The bill would ban school districts from selecting materials that promote any "divisive concepts" such as discussions about race. It also bans any discussion of sexual

orientation or gender identity. Students deserve to feel included and learn accurate history in school. We trust public school teachers to create environments that make all students feel welcome. **Please join us in contacting Speaker Cupp (614) 466-9624 to let him know you oppose HB 616.**

Questions or want to join our committee? Email [antiracism@ohiodeladems.org](mailto:antiracism@ohiodeladems.org)

### **Candidate Support**

*Update from Joyce Bourgault ([joycedemocratic@gmail.com](mailto:joycedemocratic@gmail.com)):*

Read all about our candidates via the links on our party website: [www.ohiodeladems.org](http://www.ohiodeladems.org)

### **Constitution and Bylaws Committee**

*Update from John Schmarr ([schmajo@aol.com](mailto:schmajo@aol.com)):*

The newly revised Constitution and By-Laws **has been sent** to each Executive Committee member either by email or USPS. Please review this carefully so that we can vote on it at the April 21 meeting. If you are currently on the Executive Committee and have not received your copy, let us know right away. You can email [communications@ohiodeladems.org](mailto:communications@ohiodeladems.org) OR call the Party's phone number: (614) 259-8020. Leave a message and someone WILL return your call.

### **Events and Fundraising Committee**

*Update from Holly Hanson, 2nd Vice Chair ([hhanson7661@gmail.com](mailto:hhanson7661@gmail.com)):*

**Saturday, April 30:** [Meet and Greet and Get Out The Vote](#) (GOTV) for the Primary at Little Bear Golf Club, 1940 Little Bear Loop in Lewis Center! Volunteer sign up is [here](#). Come and meet:

- US Congress District 4                      Jeff Sites    AND    Tamie Wilson
- Treasurer, state of Ohio                  Scott Schertzer
- Ohio Senate District 19                   Heather Swiger
- Ohio House District 61                    Louise Valentine
- Delaware County Auditor                Vera Thornhill
- Delaware County Commissioner        Tiffany Bukoffsky

There are two parts to this event. A VIP reception from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. will be inside with candidates meeting with local voters. There is no charge to attend, thanks to our generous sponsors.

Beginning at 11, candidates will move to the parking lot with their literature and tables so that voters can go from one to another. This is not a party fundraiser, but an opportunity for us to get to meet candidates. Candidates will have literature to share with those on site, as well as opportunity to canvas for them. Direct contributions to candidates are welcome via their [websites](#) or by check at the event.

We still need several volunteers and plenty of attendees! We are also collecting donations for the Unity Community Baby Shower, so consider donating baby strollers, high chairs, play items, or cash/check payable to Unity Community Center.

**Delaware First Fridays** May 6, June 3, July 1, and August 5. You can sign up to help at our events [here!](#)

**Westerville Fourth Fridays** - May 27, June 24, July 29. We partner with the Westerville Progressive Alliance every month to share candidate information in downtown Westerville. Contact [Steve Schottel](#) or [Kim Kennedy](#) for more information.

**June 4 - Delaware Pride Festival** - sign-up [here!](#)

**June 18 - Delaware Juneteenth Celebration** at Blue Limestone Park, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### **Communications Committee**

*Update from Don Swartwout ([dswartwout@gmail.com](mailto:dswartwout@gmail.com)):*

The Communications Committee is looking for a volunteer to handle our Instagram account. If you're interested, contact us at [communications@ohiodeladems.org](mailto:communications@ohiodeladems.org). We also need someone to take on Data Management. This is a never-ending job that includes accounting for who is a supporting member, who is a member of the Executive Committee, who is a precinct rep, and who subscribes to party emails. We also keep track of the street addresses of our email subscribers, so that we can target emails geographically when we need to.

The Communications Committee coordinates and manages what goes out to our members and friends, as well as messages that come in from members, friends, the press, and the general public. Communication channels include our [website](#), [Facebook page](#), [Twitter](#), this newsletter, and email. We promote DCDP and progressive values, pass along news items, and always try to maintain a positive presence on social media.

### **Precinct & Regional Organization & Development (PROD)**

Several regions held meetings in March that gave an opportunity to meet each other as well as our candidates. Orange and Powell/Dublin celebrated together at Taranto's Pizza in Lewis Center, and nearly all of our local candidates participated in this event. The Delaware City Democrats met in the Delaware Township Hall, and featured six candidates, including two running for US House District 4 and one of our Ohio Supreme Court candidates. Buckeye Valley Democrats did planning, met candidates and socialized in a home setting. BV Democrats are also recruiting Maria, a Democratic Donkey, to help with some of our events. Watch for her for petting and pictures! All Democrats in Delaware County are welcome at regional events.

Precinct Reps may want to reach out to Democrats in your neighborhood to encourage voting in the Primary, which has already started. May 3 is the last day to vote. A **printable Slate Card** with Democratic candidates is available on our website, and you can find it [here](#). Encourage your neighbors to request Absentee Ballots NOW!

Poll Workers are needed for this Primary - these are paid positions, and so important. Contact [Rob](#) at the Board of Elections or call (740) 833-2080.

### **Delaware County Democratic Party Student Scholarships, 2022**

Applications for the Robert E. Parker Scholarship were received this year from students at Olentangy, Olentangy Liberty, Olentangy Orange, Big Walnut, and Hayes high schools. Two students, Christopher A. Lee from Big Walnut and Molly Hornberger from Hayes, were virtually tied in their evaluation scores by the committee, so it was decided to award them each a \$1,000 scholarship.

Academically, Christopher Lee ranks first in his class out of 298, and he was elected class president at Big Walnut as well. Through his involvement with the Global Scholars Diploma Program over two years, he explored the possibility of installing solar panels on local school buildings. He has served as the web director for a local food bank, Big Walnut Friends Who Share. While working on the Huff Christmas Tree Farm, he has excelled in three varsity sports teams, cross country, swim, and track and field. Christopher was active in three campaigns for Big Walnut School Board candidates and took part in both renewal and bond levy campaigns for the school district. He plans to attend New York University's Stern School of Business, where he hopes a Spanish minor will help him thrive in the world of international business.

Molly Hornberger is ranked 29<sup>th</sup> of 426, and is part of an intervention team that includes teachers and administrators who are tasked with finding solutions to pressing issues at Hayes. She founded and serves as president of a Social Justice Club that has promoted inclusive practices along with coordinating and providing emcee duties for Black History Month activities. Molly is part of the African American Student Coalition that has striven to combat racism in Delaware. She is president of the Hayes Mock Trial Team, is a Teen Ambassador to Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, and has been an intern for Representative Alison Russo. While working on Danny O'Connor's Congressional campaign, she still found time to sing in the high school chorale, perform in the Thespians, and take part in spring musicals. She plans to attend The Ohio State University where she hopes to focus on becoming a legal advocate for marginalized communities.

This year's scholarship review committee included Linda Gaffey, Kristin Suárez, Rachel Noel Hart, and David Simmons as chair.

## **Our Goals**



### **Energize Local Democrats**

Just knowing you are not the only Democrat in your city, township, or neighborhood makes a difference. As we bring local Democrats together in Delaware County, we find new energy for all of us.



### Get Democrats Elected

We need candidates and many volunteers to support our candidates. Explore what role you can play to help get more Democrats elected in Delaware County.



### Challenge Single Party Rule

Republican candidates often run without opposition in our county, but this is changing. Every candidate who runs helps to build our party's strength and influence in county government.

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### Join us!

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



### Get Involved

There are many opportunities to get involved! Our party meets regularly to discuss priorities and organize to meet our goals. There are also candidate events, precinct and regional organizing and community events. Sign up [here](#) to get connected and be sure to keep reading this newsletter for updates.





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