

DDW Annual Meeting

January 2017

South Library ran out of chairs and library staff was breathing down our necks about the capacity crowd, nearly half of whom sat on the floor or stood to hear **Graig Meyer's *This is Our Shot*** presentation.

Representative Meyer serves the voters in Orange and Durham counties who live in District 50. He tells us that we have three opportunities to change the color of the NC General Assembly from red to blue—2017, 2018, and 2019. And he's showing us how. (To catch up, visit <http://www.graigmeyer.com/ourshot/>)

Election of Officers.

The brilliant and never-flagging Helen Compton passed the President's (imaginary) gavel to a team of three—proving that Helen has been doing far more than any one human's share of the good work of the past term. (We thanked her as best we could.)

Elected by acclaim:

Co-Presidents: Shirley Ellis, Christine Gebhardt, Kathy Hall

Vice President: Brenda Howerton

Secretary: Susan Pochapsky

Treasurer: Elizabeth Amend

Also, **Julie Linehan** will assist Elizabeth as Treasurer-in-Training

A quick run-down of **Action and Meeting Announcements** followed.

- The next major action is the **HKonJ march** February 11—the DDW will meet up at 8:30 a.m. in Raleigh. <https://hkonj.com/>
- Our next DDW **Gathering** (pot luck and discussion session)—Thursday, February 16, 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Pebble Creek clubhouse. Forge friendships and share concerns and ideas in a less formal setting.
- All registered Democrats are welcome—and urged—to attend monthly meetings of the **Durham County Democratic Party**. The next meeting is February 21, 6:30 p.m., at South Library.
- This year, don't miss your **annual Precinct meeting**. Want to take charge of your party's platform and power structure? Here's where you begin. Most precincts will meet on February 28—our website will post links for details.

NOTE. For more info on all these events,

1) Join the Facebook group, the quickest way to get (and to post) **DDW action alerts** (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/77234686574/>)

2) Check the DDW website (<http://www.durhamdemwomen.org/>) for updates, reports, action items, voter aids, and links to everything you need to be an active Democrat

3) Sign up for DDW emails (<http://www.durhamdemwomen.org/> tell you how)

Other Announcements.

- Former DDW President Cathy Moore announced that her husband (and frequent DDW keynote speaker) **Stephen Gheen** will run for Chairman of the Durham County Democratic Party this year. The election will be held at the County Convention, with reps from all precincts voting.
- Another former DDW President, and now Regional Chair **Brenda Pollard** sent greetings and announced that she will run for First Vice Chair of the State Democratic Party this year.
- Cathy McCarthy announced that **the Senior Dems** will focus on two issues in 2017—campaigning for the formation of a nonpartisan redistricting committee, and organizing seniors on appropriate and effective ways to influence their legislators on issues important to Seniors.
- VP (and County Commissioner) **Brenda Howerton** issued a membership outreach challenge to all of us—next meeting, bring a companion who doesn't look like you.

2017 Work Committees.

The formation of several committees was announced, and those present invited to sign up for this year's actions.

Precinct Organizing

Voter Registration (specifically, registering people as Democrats)

Board of Elections Monitoring

Fundraising

Membership Committee

Events (and Parties)

NOTE. A survey card invited those present to **suggest other activities** members want DDW to prioritize. We'll report and follow up on those suggestions ASAP.

Submitted by Susan Pochapsky