

THE BRAY

The latest news and updates from the Greenville County Democratic Party



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The Whys and Wherefores of Precinct Reorganization 2018

BY KATE FRANCH AND CASS TYSON

The 2018 election campaigns are already underway! Do you want to make a difference in November?! Then STEP UP and get involved in your precinct this January! If you're willing to take a slightly BIGGER step, volunteer for precinct LEADERSHIP.

Mobilizing voters to WIN IN 2018 starts with precinct reorganization.

You can give Democrats a HUGE BOOST by helping - the kick-off takes an hour or so. Mark your calendar to join us at 10 a.m. on Saturday, January 27 in Greenville County (find the location for your precinct meeting at <https://greenvilledemocrats.com/precinct-activation-2018/>).

(continued on page 2)

Who?

All who lean left/liberal/progressive are invited to this year's precinct reorganization meetings in Greenville County. Even if you've never voted for a Democrat, or never considered yourself a Democrat, YOU are welcome to join us this year! [NOTE: You must be a registered voter to participate. If you're not yet registered, go to SCvotes.org to register online.]

What?

A "PRECINCT" is defined by:

- 1) Where you vote - the school, church, or community center where you go to the polls
- 2) An area - a small district around your home as defined by the Election Commission, typically bounded by streets, bodies of water, etc
- 3) Your neighbors - the people who live within the boundaries of your precinct and vote at the same location you do

"PRECINCT REORGANIZATION" is the process of selecting a leadership team for the precinct. In addition, resolutions suggested by fellow precinct members are considered during the meeting and delegates and alternates to the GCDP County Convention on March 1 are elected to vote on county party leadership.

If you would like to bring a "RESOLUTION" for consideration, please use the form on [page 6](#). Delegates to the GCDP County Convention will vote on which resolutions will be sent for consideration at the SCDP convention on April 21.

"PRECINCT LEADERS" are the volunteers who help organize voters at the grassroots neighborhood level. Each precinct needs a President, Vice President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Committee Member and Alternate. The responsibilities of these positions can be found on [page 12](#).

When?

Democrats in South Carolina reorganize precincts in even numbered years; Republicans do the same in the odd years. That means 2018 is our year, and this year the date is January 27. Meetings start at 10 a.m. and the entire process takes around an hour, or two at most.

Where?

Greenville County has 151 precincts, so the reorganization meetings are grouped by proximity in about a dozen locations around the county. To find the location of YOUR precinct meeting, first know your precinct name/number (see scvotes.org, click on "Check My Voter Registration). Then find the location of your meeting on [pages 10-12](#).

Calendar of Events

January

25

Eat, Drink & Meet Mary
Growler Haus- Fountain Inn
5:30 pm-7:30 pm

25

LWV Redistricting Reform Meeting
Westminster Presbyterian
6:00 pm- 7:30pm

27

Precinct Reorganization Meetings
10 AM
<https://greenvilledemocrats.com/precinct-activation-2018/>

February

02

Palmetto State Progressive Summit
Metropolitan Convention Center
Columbia, SC

12

Democratic Women Monthly Meeting
West End Community Center- 12:15 PM
A Way Forward for the Party/ A
Valentine's Celebration

19

YDGC Black Panther/STEM Event
Speaker from Planned Parenthood

22

Tastings on the Town
Artisan Traders
1274 Pendleton Street
5:30 pm-7:30 pm

24

GCDP Breakfast Meeting
Upstate Circle of Friends
8:30 AM

Why?

Heck, if you're not outraged, then you're not paying attention! Liberals and progressives are SICK and TIRED of the nonsense coming out of our Republican officials, in Columbia as well as in Washington, DC!

The precinct is the nerve center for votes. ONLY DEMOCRATS can stop the Republicans' RADICAL AGENDA and do the will of "We, the PEOPLE!" Let's get together, get organized, and TURN SOUTH CAROLINA BLUE!

Morrison-Fair Honored for School Board Service

Glenda Morrison-Fair, a board member for Greenville County Schools, has been recognized by the South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA) for 10 years of school board service. Mrs. Morrison-Fair was elected to the board to represent Area 23. She earned a bachelor's degree in Math from Hampton University and a teaching certificate from Park University. Mrs. Morrison-Fair has received the Milken Award and is a lifetime member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Mrs. Morrison-Fair is one of 35 school board members from throughout the state who will receive special lapel pins for reaching the 10 or 15-year benchmark. Another 27 will commemorate their 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th or 45th year of school board service. Veteran school board members provide vision and valuable leadership for school districts. SCSBA and the local boards are happy to honor these board members for their long-term dedication to improving student achievement in their communities. SCSBA is a non-profit organization serving as a source of information and a statewide voice for boards governing the 81 school districts.



Bray Report from the SCDP Executive Council and Executive Committee Meetings on December 2, 2017

By Ingrid Erwin, State Ex. Committee Delegate

The South Carolina Democratic Party Executive Council met on December 2, followed by a meeting of the Executive Committee. Party Chair Trav Robertson led both meetings. The Executive Council discussed the proposed 2018 calendar. The overall goal is to strengthen the party at the county level.

Trav believes that fostering local relationships is a key step in putting party candidates in a position to win. The state party has prepared a schedule of county party conventions that will afford candidates for statewide office (including the down-ballot candidates) the chance to attend as many conventions as possible. Under the proposed schedule, candidates may travel to two counties in the same day, e.g., both Greenville and Pickens County conventions are set for March 1. As state party chair, Trav plans to personally attend every convention. The proposed schedule offers the added benefit of giving party officers a predictable schedule. Kathy Hensley gave the Treasurer's Report. The party goal is to generate enough small donations to cover the routine operating costs. If we accomplish that end, revenue from events such as the Issues Conference and the Blue Palmetto Dinner could be directed towards helping our candidates win.

The Council discussed possible ways to generate revenue, including encouraging Yellow Dog membership at the state level and asking county parties to buy at least one table at the Blue Palmetto Dinner, but no decisions were made.

Discussions about the budget will resume after the Issues Conference set for December 9-10.

At the Executive Committee meeting, Trav reminded the group of the November election victories, including the re-election of Lillian Brock Flemming and the election of Russell Stall to city council. Trav noted that gentrification has changed downtown Greenville, causing traditional Democratic voters to move into the county and making city races much more competitive. Trav praised the Greenville County party, stating that it had been instrumental in both of these campaigns.

Trav noted successes in other parts of the state. In the races for Columbia City Council, which are supposedly non-partisan, the Republican Party identified, trained, and provided significant financial backing to two candidates challenging long-time council members Tameika Isaac Devine and Sam Davis.

Report (Continued)

Despite these efforts, Devine and Davis were both re-elected. The Democrats won the office of Mayor of Georgetown, electing the first African-American in the city's history to the office. In Tega Cay, an extremely wealthy Charlotte suburb, a Democrat was elected Mayor Pro Tem. Swansea also elected a Democratic mayor.

The party has applied for a \$200,000 grant from the DNC to do focus groups, polling, and messaging on a county-by-county level and use that information to recruit candidates and develop a message.

The party has completed the DNC's SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. The Candidate Recruitment Committee has been busy. A Candidate Tool Kit has been developed. Candidates are coming forward. Two candidates - Phil Noble and James Smith - have already announced their plans to seek the governorship. Joyce Rose Harris, co-chair of Democrats Care, spoke about various charitable efforts made by Democrats throughout the state in 2017.

Other party officers provided updates. First Vice Chair Lessie Price emphasized the need for donations; Second Vice Chair Anthony Thompson noted the formation of two new caucuses (Senior and Black Women's); and Third Vice Chair Scott Thorpe discussed the Day of Action sponsored by Young Democrats that led to 13 community service events around the state.

In Staff Reports, Christale Spain noted that this would be her last meeting as Executive Director of the party. She was applauded for her hard work and dedication over the past few years. Phil Chambers continues to work to raise the party's media presence.

Dates to Remember

January 27	Precinct Reorganization
March 1	Greenville County Party Convention
April 20	Blue Palmetto Dinner
April 21	State Party Convention
June 12	Primaries
June 26	Primary Runoffs (if needed)
October 5-6	Issues Conference
November 6	Election Day

Rep. James Smith to Deliver Democratic State of the State Response

Columbia, SC - Representative James Smith (House District 72), House Democratic Caucus Whip and Democratic Candidate for Governor, will deliver the Democratic response to the Governor's State of the State address on Wednesday, January 24. Smith will discuss what Democrats in the General Assembly plan to do this legislative session to address the issues facing our state. "South Carolinians are ready for new leadership and new solutions. The people of our state want to move beyond outdated promises and politics, and begin to focus on the hard decisions that will make a real difference," Smith said. "I look forward to sharing a positive vision for South Carolina, one that brings us together to tackle the challenges we face as a state. Let's focus on fixing our broken energy policies, move beyond simply expecting a minimally adequate education for our children, and invest in real workforce development that connects our people with the jobs of tomorrow."

Governor McMaster postponed State of the State address to January 24th due to wintry weather earlier in the month.



Volunteers Wanted

Precinct Reorganization Meetings, Saturday, January 27th, 10:00 am. We are hoping to have the best turnout ever and to pick up leadership in as many precincts as we can. **Organizers needed now!** Contact Gaybriel Gibson, 864-313-4699 or gabby9282@gmail.com, if you are able to be a "meeting site coordinator" or can help in another way i.e. emailing, sending letters, and phone calls. Help organize, then COME!

Greenville Huddle for Progress will meet the second Wednesday of every month at 8:30AM in the Red Room at Coffee Underground. Those dates are January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9 and June 13. Put them on your calendar. Men can join us too!

Contact other "Huddle" Groups for meeting times:

For the GCDP Huddle: headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com or whitney.wrightsc@gmail.com

For the Simpsonville Huddle: Johanna Stoiser at johannastoiser@att.net

For the Hope Huddle in Simpsonville: Paige Dillion at pdillon2@bellsouth.net



Emerge SC @ Cafe & Then Some, Tuesday, January 23rd, 7:30-10:30pm. Come watch an unscripted evening with the Ladies of Cafe and Then Some and help support Emerge South Carolina. Tickets for the show are \$50, all proceeds will go to support the recruitment, training, and support of Democratic women running for office in SC. Dinner and drinks will be available for purchase separately. You can purchase tickets via the Facebook page for Emerge South Carolina.

Habitat for Humanity Women's Build Day Saturday, January 27th, in Simpsonville. Contact Paige Dillon, pdillon2@bellsouth.net or more details on this multi-huddle effort led by Hope Huddle of Simpsonville.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

**Eat, Drink
and Meet Mary**

HOSTED BY:

**Thursday⁹
January 25²⁰¹⁸
5:30-7:30PM**

**GROWLER HAUS
FOUNTAIN INN**

101 N MAIN STREET
FOUNTAIN INN, SC 29644

You Too Can Be a Yellow Dog Democrat

It's not too late to be a 2018 Yellow Dog Club Member. A Gold level member pays \$1000 or more in 2018, a Silver level member pays \$500 or more in 2018 and a Bronze level member pays \$250 or more in 2018. Membership can be paid in installments by contacting the GCDP Treasurer, Anita LeBold, at anitalebold@hotmail.com or 864.325.8540.

Young Dems to Celebrate Black History Month with Black Panther/STEM Event

The Greenville Young Democrats Black History Month event will be hosting a Black Panther/STEM event to inspire Black youth in Greenville to pursue STEM studies and careers. The Greenville Young Democrats Black Panther/STEM event will be on Monday, February 19th on President's Day. This is open to middle and high school students. We will take youth from various community centers in Greenville to the Greenville Tech Center of Manufacturing Innovation for a mini STEM camp. We'll end the day at the Hollywood 20 movie theatre for a free screening of the Black Panther movie.



Precinct Reorganization (continued from page 2)



Precinct Resolution Form

Precinct Name: _____

County: Greenville County

Resolution Title: _____

Whereas: _____

Whereas: _____

Therefore, be it resolved that:

Precinct President: Please send original to the county chair (gcdpchair@greenvilledemocrats.com) within seven days of your precinct meeting or before your County Convention.

Dems to Host "Tastings on the Town" February Fundraiser

If recent arctic-like weather has sent you into hibernation, here's a perfect opportunity to get out for a fun evening in the company of GCDP supporters at "Tastings on the Town". Tastings on the Town takes place Thursday, February 22 from 5:30-7:30pm at Artisan Traders, 1274 Pendleton Street in the Village of the West End. Tastings features appetizers and desserts from local chefs, specialty wine and beer selections, and live music. Award winning chef, Karen Palladino Curtis, will offer tips on how to pair food and wine like a professional and GCDP representatives will share the latest Party news. The price of a single ticket is \$100.00. All proceeds benefit the Greenville County Democratic Party in their efforts to recruit and support Democratic candidates. For more information or to sign up for this event, go to bit.ly/GCDPtastings.

If you prefer to pay by check, please register by calling GCDP headquarters at 864-232-5531. Mail or drop off your check to GCDP, 1300 East Washington Street, Suite J, Greenville, 29607. Checks must be received by no later than February 15.

If you become a Gold, Silver or Bronze level "Yellow Dog" member or renew your membership now, you will automatically become an event host. Gold level members (\$1,000) receive 2 event tickets and Silver level members (\$500) receive 1 ticket. Bronze level (\$250) contributors will be listed in the program along with other hosts.

We can ensure a sold out crowd by spreading the word to our circle of friends and network contacts. If you know of businesses that might like to be a sponsor or provide an in-kind donation of food or alcohol, please contact Corey Urbina at 202-236-7939, c_urbina@charter.net.



Moms Demand Action to Hold Upstate Organizing Meetings

Moms Demand Action, a nonprofit organization founded in 2013 by a mom following the Sandy Hook massacre, is holding a series of meetings in the Upstate this month and next to talk about ways you can get involved. It's often as simple as making phone calls from the comfort of your home. Moms has a survivor's network and operates the Be Smart for Kids, www.besmartforkids.org, campaign educating communities on kids, guns and safety. To find a meeting in your area, email upstatescmoms@gmail.com or call 864-243-8517.

Monday, Jan. 22nd 7pm- Taylors branch library
Monday, Feb. 5th 10am- Anderson Road branch library
Monday, Feb. 5th 7pm- Travelers Rest branch library
Wed., Feb. 7th 7pm- Simpsonville branch library
Monday, Feb. 19th 7pm- Taylors branch library
Weds., Feb. 21st 7pm- Augusta Rd. branch library
Monday, Feb. 27th- Lobby Day in Columbia

MOMS 
DEMAND
ACTION
FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA

2018 Offices for Election

Office	Members	Term	2018
Federal			
US House (435 US seats) (7 SC seats) #3 and #4 for Greenville	7	2	X-2
[#3 = Rep. Duncan, #4 = Rep. Gowdy]			
SC Statewide			
Governor (McMaster)	1	4	x
Secretary of State (Hammond)	1	4	x
State Treasurer (Loftis)	1	4	x
Attorney General (Wilson)	1	4	x
Comptroller General (Eckstrom)	1	4	x
State Superintendent of Education (Spearman)	1	4	x
Commissioner of Agriculture (Weatherman)	1	4	x
State House (124 seats)			
House District 10 (shared with Anderson/Pickens)	1	2	x
House District 16 (shared w/Laurens County)	1	2	x
House District 17	1	2	x
House District 18	1	2	x
House District 19	1	2	x
House District 20	1	2	x
House District 21	1	2	x
House District 22	1	2	x
House District 23 (<i>Rep. Dillard</i>)	1	2	x
House District 24	1	2	x
House District 25 (<i>Rep. Robinson-Simpson</i>)	1	2	x
House District 27	1	2	x
House District 28	1	2	x
House District 35 (shared with Spartanburg)	1	2	x
House District 36 (shared with Spartanburg)	1	2	x
Greenville County			
Auditor			
Probate Judge (<i>Judge Faulkner</i>)	1	4	x

Treasurer		1	4		x
Circuit Solicitor: 13th Judicial Circuit		1	4		x
Soil and Water Conservation District (non-partisan)		1	4		x
		3	4		x-2
County Council (12 seats)					
Council District 17					
Council District 19		1	4		x
Council District 23		1	4		x
Council District 26		1	4		x
Council District 28		1	4		x
		1	4		x
NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS					
Greenville County Schools (12 seats)					
School District 18 (shared w/Spartanburg County)					
School District 20		1	4		x
School District 22		1	4		x
School District 24		1	4		x
School District 26		1	4		x
School District 28		1	4		x
		1	4		x
Anderson County Schools					
School District 02 (shared w/Greenville County)					
		7	4		x-5
Watershed Districts					
South Tyger River					
Rabon Creek (shared w/Laurens County)		Statement of Candidacy	5	4	
Special Purpose Districts		Statement of Candidacy	5	4	
Dunklin Fire District					
Piedmont Public Service	Statement of Candidacy	5	4		
	Statement of Candidacy	5	4		x-2

Precinct Officer Roles and Responsibilities

President: The SCDP's campaign organization begins with the Precinct President. Being president means utilizing the tools the county and state parties provide to organize your precinct while educating voters. It involves a consistent commitment in and out of campaign season. The main duties include:

- **Assisting** in registering Democratic voters in your precinct
- **Serving** as the neighborhood (precinct) connection with the county and state parties
- **Canvassing** and **campaigning** in your precinct on behalf of all Democratic candidates
- **Assisting** with Get Out the Vote (GOTV) projects and in turning out the maximum number of Democratic voters

First Vice President: The Precinct First VP must be a different gender than the Precinct President. He/she assists the president in organizing the precinct and assumes the role of president when the president is unavailable.

Second Vice President: The Precinct Second VP must be a different race than the Precinct President, when possible. He/she assists the president in organizing the precinct.

Third Vice President: The Precinct Third VP must be between 18 and 36 years of age. He/she assists the president in organizing the precinct.

Secretary: The Precinct Secretary keeps minutes of precinct meetings when needed and informs Democrats within the precinct of meetings and activities.

Treasurer: The Precinct Treasurer oversees the financial affairs of the precinct and keeps records on monies garnered from any fundraising activities.

Executive Committee Member: The Precinct Executive Committee Member is the liaison between his/her precinct and the county party. He/she represents the precinct on the County Executive Committee which meets to oversee the direction and execution of the policy of the county party.

Alternate Executive Committee Member: Each precinct elects an Alternate Executive Committee Member to represent the precinct on the County Executive Committee when the Executive Committee Member cannot attend a meeting.

Farewell & Welcome

The Greenville County Democratic Party bids a reluctant farewell to our ambitious communications coordinator Jarrod Wiggins. Jarrod is exploring new career paths and we wish him well. We thank him for revving up our website and social media as our inaugural communications guru. The GCDP welcomes Laura Haight as our new party communications coordinator. Laura is a veteran news reporter, savvy web communicator, and longtime Democratic activist. We are excited to see how she plans to spread our message of equality, opportunity, and unity.

PARTY LEADERSHIP

KATE FRANCH

Greenville County Chair

DEXTER L. REAVES

1st Vice Chair

GRADY PATTERSON

2nd Vice Chair

WHITNEY WRIGHT

3rd Vice Chair

GAYBRIEL GIBSON

Secretary

ANITA LEBOLD

Treasurer

CHRISTOPHER SHIPMAN

State Executive
Committee Delegate

INGRID ERWIN

State Executive
Committee Delegate

ROXANNE CORDONIER

State Executive
Committee Alternate

MICHAEL MCCORD

State Executive
Committee Alternate

JAKE ERWIN

Voter Protection Chair

LAURA HAIGHT

Communications Chair

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SHARON KLOMPUS
(2018 BRONZE YELLOW DOG CLUB)

FLETCHER MARTIN

THELMA WILLIAMS

Thank you.



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