

OCTOBER 2016

The Boone County **DEMOCRAT**

A JOINT PUBLICATION OF THE BOONE CO. MULESKINNERS & DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The Boone County Democrat Newsletter is digital! If you require a printed newsletter, please call 573-303-3080. To be sure your email is up to date, email scottcristal@boonecountydems.net.

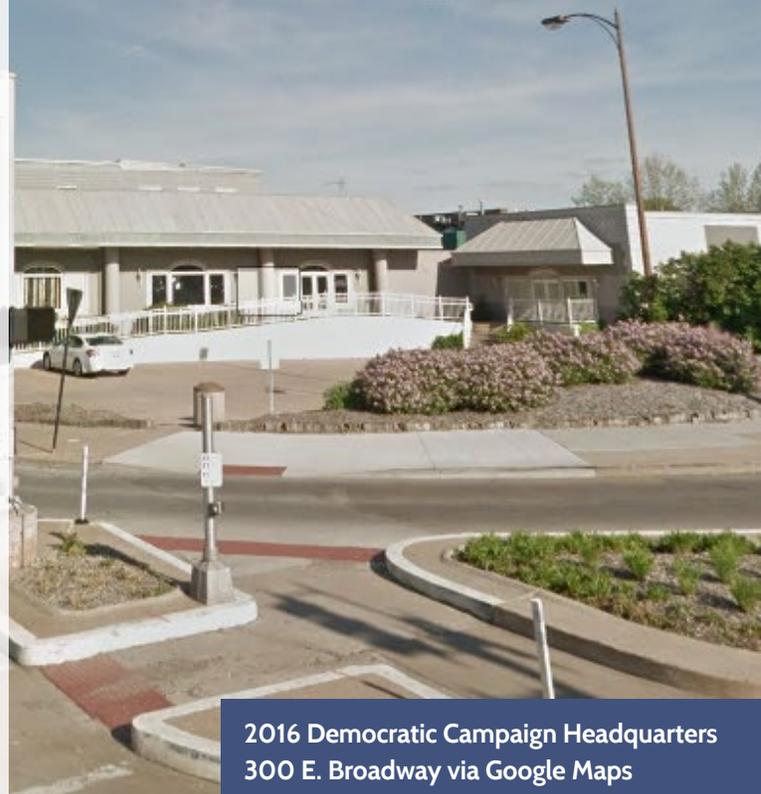
DEEP BLUE

by Angie Wood

The Boone County Democratic Central Committee is doing something new this election season. We have opened a headquarters at 300 E. Broadway in collaboration with the Christensen for Congress campaign. We will use our new space to coordinate the Democratic Party's campaign, support our candidates at all levels, recruit volunteers, and work with like-minded groups to turn out every Democratic leaning voter in the county on election day.

We are excited to secure the services of Bill Romjue, an experienced political leader, to direct our campaign. Bill has forty years of experience in the political arena, directing campaigns for candidates ranging from Jimmie Carter to Bernie Sanders. Bill will be calling on all of us to get involved, and we hope you can throw your weight behind our effort to prove that Boone is a deep blue county.

As we all know, this is a vitally important election, and we all need to do all we can to turn back the Republican tide of barbaric assault on the best in American life. Please stop in at our campaign headquarters at 300 E. Broadway. We are located at the intersection of Providence and Broadway in the old icehouse, and help make Boone County deep blue in November.



2016 Democratic Campaign Headquarters
300 E. Broadway via Google Maps

 [BOONECOUNTYDEMOCRATICPARTY](#)

  [@BOONECOUNTYDEMS](#)

 [BOONECODEMS](#)

PAID FOR BY BOONE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, KAY CALLISON, TREASURER

Muleskinners

Muleskinners Annual Election of Officers and 2017 Dues

The purposes of Muleskinners include supporting the Democratic Party, disseminating information to members and the public by hosting forums that provide accurate information related to government, and providing a forum for reasoned debate of issues. For the first time, we recently hosted our first debate between candidates of both parties. Regularly, we have press in attendance which publish articles in the Tribune and Missourian.

Membership is defined by payment of dues which are on a calendar year basis. Dues for 2017 membership will start being collected in October. We encourage you to join both the Boone County Democratic party and Muleskinners by selecting the "Both" option on the dues form on the last page of this newsletter. Your membership in Muleskinners supports the free luncheons provided our speakers and the use of the space at the Country Club of Missouri.

Officers for 2017 will be elected on **November 18**, usually by voice vote. Those who have paid their 2016 or 2017 Muleskinners dues before the election can vote. A nomination committee has proposed a slate, but other nominations may be made from the floor, in which case voting is by ballot. The proposed slate is as follows:

- Co-Presidents:** Mahree Skala & Leslie Clay
- 1st Vice President for Programming:** Bill Clark
- 2nd Vice President for Programming:** Wiley Miller
- Vice President for Membership:** Jade Govero
- Vice President for Publicity:** Scott Cristal
- Secretary/historian:** Chimene Schwach
- Co-Treasurers:** Jeanne Sebaugh and Pam Springsteel

MULESKINNERS FRIDAY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Muleskinners meet Fridays at noon at the Columbia Country Club off Old Rt. 63 North at 2210 North Country Club Drive.

Oct 7 - Democratic and Republican Candidates for Northern and Southern Boone County Commissioner

Oct 14 - 4th Congressional Campaign Candidate(s) Gordon Christensen (D) and a Hartzler stand-in (*still to be confirmed*)

Oct 21 - Roger Wilson, "Why I Support Democrats!" Pep Rally!!

Oct 28 - Voter ID Law: Pros and Cons
Pro - Chuck Basye (R) Legislator, 47th House District.
Con - Marilyn McCloud, League of Women Voters

Nov 4 - Terry Smith and Dave Luethold - Forecasting the Election Results

Nov 11 - Terry Smith and Dave Luethold - Why the Predictions were Wrong or Right

Nov 18 - Election of new officers

Join the Muleskinners!

Support the Democratic social network in Boone County and keep Democrats informed and engaged in political dialogue throughout the year. An optional lunch buffet is available for purchase - as is a coffee and tea option. The public is welcome & encouraged to attend.

Questions? Contact Scott Cristal at 573-999-3871
Programs suggestions? Bill Clark 573-474-4510

Muleskinners Officers

President:	Bill Romjue, bbromjue@aol.com, 573-353-0840
1st VP (Programming)	Bill Clark, 573-474-4510
2nd VP (Programming):	Wiley Miller, millerwi@missouri.edu, 573-445-5147
VP (Membership):	Open
VP (Publicity):	Scott Cristal, scottcristal@midamerica.net, 573-999-3871
Treasurers:	Jeanne Sebaugh, sis.stat@centurytel.net, 573-446-1540 and Pam Springsteel, pspring@socket.net, 573-445-0642
Secretary/Historian:	Leslie Clay, leslieclay@hotmail.com, 573-445-2588

Candidate Interviews

Q & A with Boone County Candidates by Homer Page



Janet Thompson

Janet Thompson is completing her first term as the Northern District Boone County Commissioner. She is seeking reelection in November, so I wanted to talk with her and share with our readers some of the aspects of the office, and why Ms. Thompson wishes to

continue to fill it. Janet is a thoughtful and dedicated public servant. Her answers to my questions demonstrate both of these qualities, and clearly show why she is supremely qualified to continue in service to the citizens of Boone County.

Q. Most of our readers know you well, but for those who may not, please tell us a little about your background?

A. My family came to Boone County in 1959, when my father was hired to direct the Department of Urology at the newly expanded Medical School at the University. So you can almost call me a home grown tomato. I attended the University of Missouri, majoring in Spanish and started a Doctoral program at the University of Kansas, but I discovered there weren't many jobs in the golden age of Spanish poetry, so I reassessed my career goals and came back to the University of Missouri Law School. After a very productive time spent clerking for an Appeals Court Judge, I joined a large law firm in Kansas City. However, I had the opportunity to handle some court assigned cases for people who could not afford legal counsel and discovered my true calling in the practice of law. I joined the Public Defender's program and worked with the Public Defender's Office, until I became the Boone County Northern District Commissioner.

Q. What are the duties of the Board of County Commissioners?

A. Perhaps our larger responsibility is developing and approving the County budget. We approve the budget for all the elected offices, the jail and sheriff's office, and the County departments. We also oversee land use regulations, the construction and maintenance of county roads and bridges, and a variety of human service programs. We are responsible for County buildings and park land. We administer the recently enacted tax directed to assist children with mental health needs. Our Community Services Program provides services aimed at providing alternatives to incarceration. We also support the work of nonprofits in our communities.

Q. What do you enjoy about being a County Commissioner, and what have been some of your frustrations?

A. I have enjoyed working with our staff to develop our Stepping Up Initiative. This is a program to involve members in watching out for persons who may need assistance. There are people who are out in our communities

on a daily basis, such as sanitation and postal workers, who may observe changing patterns of behavior that may indicate illness or mental health issues. We want to train these community observers to recognize potential problems. Certainly, if we can reach people early, before a real problem develops, we can help the troubled person, and save treatment dollars further down the line. I learned in my work with the Public Defender's Program that reaching young people and adults early could prevent a multitude of issues. As a County Commissioner, I can work to head off some problems before they rise to the level where the judicial system must be involved.

I have had some frustrations as well. Often we find that there are services available for children. However, when they become adults, the assistance goes away. Another frustration is in the area of affordable and special needs housing. If someone coming out of jail can't find housing and has to go back on the street, they become very vulnerable to returning to incarceration. Sometimes I am frustrated by how long it takes to get something done, and sometimes I would like to help a citizen with a problem, but we just don't have the authority to do anything about the citizen's problem. I am also frustrated by the State Legislature, which refuses to take on some real problems that face the state. They want to kick back problems to the counties to solve, even though we lack the resources to handle them.

Q. What do you consider the top priority for the county to be in the next few years?

A. Without a doubt it is the reenactment of the Roads and Bridges Tax. We get very little help from the state on our essential infrastructure, and the tax is our major source of revenue for this purpose. Our staff does a terrific job squeezing every dollar to get the maximum value. However, the price of materials for road and bridge construction and maintenance has gone up significantly in the last several years, and if we are going to come close to keeping up with the need, we must renew the Roads and Bridges Tax. The other part of this priority involves fighting with all our might the state legislature's threat to turn state lettered roads back to the counties. This would overwhelm our resources and lead to horrible deterioration in our transportation infrastructure. Nothing is more important to our daily lives and the Boone County economy than keeping our transportation infrastructure functional.

Q. As you look back over your career, are there things you learned that you would like to work on as a County Commissioner?

A. Once I represented a young man who requested that I try to get him sentenced to a particular prison. When I asked him why he wanted to serve his time in that facility, he answered that his father and uncle were incarcerated there. What became clear to me as a public defender is that we must break the family cycles of poverty, marginalization, and the anti-social behavior which often follows. I want to work with people in the human services areas and citizens in the community to help break these dysfunctional patterns. It is a difficult challenge. However, I think we are doing some very creative things in Boone County, and I want very much to continue to work on them, if the voters choose to give me a second term. ♦



Susan McClintic

Susan McClintic has faced difficult challenges in her life. However, she has met them with determination and hard work. She has always remained positive, and she has always understood that life is richer and more rewarding, when one

focuses on giving to others rather than one's own problems. It is this quality that came through in my interview with her and will make her such a valuable State Representative. Here is what she had to say.

Q. Can you give us a little background about yourself?

A. Well, I grew up in Eldon, Missouri. My father was an engineer at Bagnall Dam, and my mother was a teacher. We were a typical middle class family. I think my father planned to move around in his work, but that all came to an end when I was seven years old. My father was killed in an accident, and we were on our own. My mother had a job, so she decided to stay in Eldon, where I grew up in a home dedicated to the value of education. She taught me you can lose everything, but your education is something no one can take from you. We had some hard times, and my mother dealt with illness, but with the help of our church and the community we made it.

When it was time for me to attend college, I went to Lincoln University in Jefferson City. I waited on tables and worked my way through school. I took as many classes each semester as I had money saved up. When I graduated, I moved to Columbia and got a job in the Columbia School District, where I worked, until I retired and began my campaign for the legislature. I taught in a number of positions, including the elementary grades and middle school. I also taught in the special education program. The last ten years or so of my teaching career I was an elected representative of Columbia teachers in the local unit of the National Education Association, (NEA). In that role I had the opportunity to work with the legislature and learn about the important contribution education makes to the economy and social life of our state. While I was a NEA official, we increased membership in Columbia by over four times what it was when I began.

Q. You have talked about the importance of education to the economy of the state and especially to small communities. Why do you believe it is so important?

A. In many communities, K-12 education is the largest employer. Not only does the education system employ teachers, it employs bus drivers, food service workers, maintenance persons, and other support staff. There are over 300,000 persons in the state who are active or retired employees. This provides a very large boost to our statewide economy. However, in our smaller communities, many of which are in the 47th house district, the schools are the life blood of the community. Our fight to fully fund our schools helps our children first and foremost. However, it would also provide much needed support to our state and local economies.

Q. What are the most important issues to you in your campaign?

A. There are many issues that are very important. However, I have focused on three that are particularly pivotal to me. I have already talked about the importance of education. In addition, I believe Medicaid expansion and the protection of the rights of workers to organize are crucial. People are dying in our state, because the legislature has failed to take advantage of the benefits available through the simple act of expanding the Medicaid program. Hospitals are closing in rural Missouri, independent farmers are going without health care, and hardworking but low paid persons are forced to go without vitally needed health services. The citizens of Missouri are missing out on the health care services they desperately need because of the political game playing of the Republican majority in Jefferson City.

My other focus is on protecting the rights of workers to organize. As a representative of teachers, I saw how important it was to speak with a united voice. We have seen the middle class shrink in the last several decades. This has hurt families and the overall economy. Organized labor is a vital element in preserving the middle class, and we must protect labor from attacks from a self-serving financial elite.

Q. Why do you think the 47th district is important.?

A. The district is one we can win, so we can start to reclaim the Legislature. The Republicans know we can win this seat, and therefore, they will pour a lot of money into it to try to keep it. Our state is held back by the Republican legislature. We can begin right here to turn that around. If we can take back the legislature, we can fully fund the education formula, my top priority, provide health care to our unserved citizens, and protect our workers. These are very important priorities for me.

Q. Family and community seemed to be important to you. Why do you think that is?

A. That is a good question. I suppose I have always taken it for granted that caring for my family and community was an essential part of life. I think because I depended so much on support from my family and community as I grew up, I want to give back for what I received. I have always been active in the community, trying to help where I can. Twelve years ago my daughter died suddenly, leaving four young children. My husband and I have been heavily engaged in raising them. Three of them are now young adults and the remaining girl is a teenager. Concern for my family and community carries over into my professional life, one of the most rewarding things about my campaign is meeting my former students, as I go door to door, receiving their support now means a lot to me, and I want to be able to take my concern for the future of these young people to Jefferson City, where I can continue working for my students and my grandchildren. ♦



Brianna Lennon

Brianna Lennon is the Democratic Candidate for the Southern District seat on the Boone County Board of Commissioners. She is a relative newcomer to Boone County politics. However, she is not a newcomer to the

county community. She has served on the Century Fund Board of Directors for five years, volunteered in the United Way campaign, and served on the Greenbelt Foundation Board. She emerged from the very competitive primary election with an impressive victory, and now she is working hard to keep the Boone County Commissioner seat for the southern district in Democratic hands. She is a serious candidate with a substantial grasp of the work of the County Commission. Her commitment to public service and local government plus her wide ranging knowledge make her a very appealing candidate.

Q. Will you please share a little about yourself with our readers?

A. I grew up in Utica, New York. My father changed jobs when I was a teenager, and I attended high school in St. Louis. I attended college at Truman State, and then I came to Columbia to go to Law School where I also received a Master's in Public Administration.

During my studies at Truman, I took every opportunity to intern in Jefferson City with the state government. I knew then I wanted to work in public service. I have found that often people just need someone to listen. Our government can be complex, and when someone is in a stressful situation things may not make much sense. I find it really rewarding to be able to help. I have also found that I enjoy working on policy issues.

Q. What experiences have you had that draw your interest to local government?

A. When I finished Law School, I went to work in the Attorney General's Office. One of my first assignments was to go to Joplin after the tornado. I helped with problems and worked with the local authorities. Later I moved to the Secretary of State's Office, where I worked on election

issues. In this position, I had the opportunity to work with County Clerks across the state, and I learned what county government could do. My work with the state gave me the chance to come in contact with local government in a wide variety of ways, and it became clear to me that it was a vehicle for performing valuable service to the public. You can really help people, because you are close to them. I find this very appealing.

Q. Are there issues that you would like to work on as a county commissioner?

A. Yes, there are several. I believe the 911 center will require serious attention. I am interested in working with the management and the public safety dimensions of the operation. Our county staff has developed an impressive plan for maintaining our county roads, but that plan can only be implemented if we extend the roads and bridges tax. That is a very high priority. I am also interested in working with the towns and cities to provide the necessary infrastructure for the growth occurring in the county. We serve the same citizens, and we need to build on those areas, where our staff have developed good relationships. Through my work with the Greenbelt Foundation, I have learned the value of parks and greenspace. I want to work with the community to explore ways to preserve some of this valuable asset. In addition, I want to work to ensure that the county government is as transparent as possible. In my opinion many problems can be solved early in the process, if we just keep the public informed, and I will be dedicated to a very high level of transparency.

Q. It appears that you are in a competitive race. How do you plan to win in November?

A. Well, I plan to work very hard. I plan to knock on 6,000 doors with the help of my volunteers. I like meeting with small groups and listening to their concerns. I did that during the primary, and I believe it was well received. Listening to the voters is very important to me, and I want to do a lot of listening during the campaign, and I will continue meeting with citizens to listen to their concerns if I am elected. I believe that engaging the voters now and later through meeting with them and listening to them, and through a high level of transparency, is the best way to earn voter trust and involve citizens in the policy making process. ♦

Watch results roll in with the Boone County Dems
ELECTION NIGHT WATCH PARTY
 NOVEMBER 8 - The Blue Note
 17 N 9th St, Columbia



Martha Stevens

Martha Stevens is the Democratic candidate for the state legislature in House District 46. She is young and energetic. However, Martha has a wide range of experience. She has worked hard to meet the voters in the 46th District and she shares their issues and

priorities. Here is what she had to say.

Q. Tell us about your background

A. My father was in the army, and we travelled a lot while I was growing up. I was born in Germany; we lived in Seattle, and returned to Germany for a second tour. My father was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood at the beginning of my high school years and I attended Waynesville High School. When I graduated I came to the University of Missouri where I received my degree in Sociology.

After graduation I worked for the State of Missouri in the program serving seniors and people with disabilities. I was a case manager. However, my husband Ben, who is an engineer, took a job in Seattle and we moved there. While in Seattle, I worked for a private, non-profit which provided home health services to seniors and people with disabilities. We got caught up in the 2008 recession and returned to Columbia. I wanted to return to graduate school, and I received my Master's in Social Work from MU.

During my last year in graduate school I did an internship with the Planned Parenthood lobbyists at the state legislature. I had an emphasis on public policy while in school, and after graduation I continued my work with Planned Parenthood. After working with the Planned Parenthood program I worked with the Rural Crisis Center, assisting rural Missourians to receive health care coverage through the Affordable Care Act. I realized that the state legislature controlled many things that could improve the lives of our citizens, so I decided that I would try to become a legislator where I might have some influence on these crucial issues.

Q. You have mentioned a number of issues that you have worked on, what are your major priorities?

A. I want to work on health care and education. The expansion of Medicare is really important. Hospitals are closing in rural areas of the state, and people who need care simply are not receiving it. I also have worked a lot with seniors and people with disabilities to see that they can live independently and stay in the community. This improves their quality of life and it is also cost effective. This remains a priority for me.

Q. The Republican dominated legislature has not been very responsive to some of your priorities, how do you plan to be effective in the legislature.

A. There are issues that are polarizing and we may not be able to make progress on them. However, I think I can work across the aisle on issues that have a bipartisan quality to them. Mental health, independent living and rural health care are some of the issues on which I think I can work with Republican legislators to make progress.

Q. You have worked very hard on your campaign, what have you learned about the 46th District?

A. I have gone door to door and spoken with quite a number of the voters in the 46th District. I have found that they share many of my priorities and it has been a wonderful experience. They are concerned about health care and education and many of the other issues that are important to me. I believe that my values and priorities match well with the voters of the 46th District. I want to continue to meet and talk with them if I am elected. I want to share with them what I am doing but I also want to hear their ideas.

Q. It seems as if a new generation is stepping forward to become involved in the political process, do you consider yourself to be part of that movement?

A. Yes, I think it is time for my generation to begin to pick up the responsibility for leadership in the public arena. I've had a strong interest in public policy since I was in college. I have worked in positions in which I could have some influence but now I want to take the next step and become responsible for shaping policy. I think there are a number of us in Boone County who are at that point in our careers. We need to continue the work that Democrats in previous generations have done and hopefully we can carry it forward in the years ahead. ♦

ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED

Approximately 150 more Democrat election judges are needed for the General Election on Tuesday, November 8. These positions are PAID and require a few sessions of training.

Sign up at:

<https://showmeboone.com/pollworker>.

Questions?

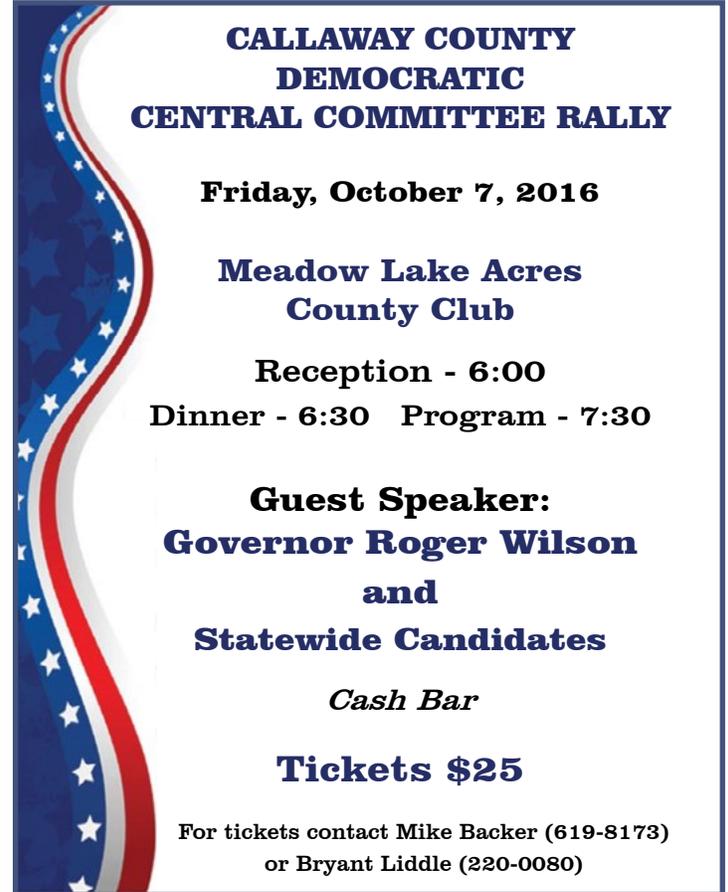
Email pollworker@boonecountymo.org.

Events

Send your events to Central Committee Chairwoman Angie Wood, angelinewd@gmail.com.

Connect with our Google calendar at BooneCountyDems.org

Fri, Oct 7	Callaway County Dinner and Speeches including Roger Wilson
Sat, Oct 8	Missouri Democratic Party Office 201 W. Broadway, Building 2 A Columbia
Sat, Oct 8	Canvass with Brianna Lennon, Contact: brianna@lennonforboone.com Southern Boone County Commissioner Candidate
Wed, Oct 12	Last Day to Register to Vote
Thur, Oct 13	Central Committee Meeting 7:00 pm 801 E Walnut St, Columbia
Fri, Oct 14	Susan McClintic 4:00 - 7:00 pm Rocheport General Store
Sat, Oct 22	Mizzou Homecoming Parade
Sun, Oct 23	GOTV with Stephen Webber Ashland
Tue, Nov 8	ELECTION DAY! Watch Party at The Blue Note All Welcome



**CALLAWAY COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC
CENTRAL COMMITTEE RALLY**

Friday, October 7, 2016

**Meadow Lake Acres
County Club**

**Reception - 6:00
Dinner - 6:30 Program - 7:30**

**Guest Speaker:
Governor Roger Wilson
and
Statewide Candidates**

Cash Bar

Tickets \$25

For tickets contact Mike Backer (619-8173)
or Bryant Liddle (220-0080)

2016-2017 Central Committee Officers

Chair	Angie Wood, angelinewd@gmail.com , 573-446-0441
Vice-Chair	Darren Hellwege, dmhellwege@gmail.com , 573-999-7857
Treasurer	Kay Callison, kaycallison@centurytel.net , 573-449-7075
Secretary	Greg Ahrens, gregahrens@aol.com , 573.886.9786

The committee meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Boone County Government Center on Walnut Street. All are welcome.

For a complete list of current Central Committee members and vacancies, visit www.boonecountydems.net.



2017 Membership Drive

Dear Fellow Democrats,

We have some changes in our membership drive this year. Membership in the Boone County Democratic Party and Muleskinners will now be based on the calendar year. Therefore, we are requesting that you renew your membership, or become a member for the first time, during the next three months. Since we are enlarging our circulation of the newsletter significantly through its electronic distribution, and we are moving our record keeping to a more manageable system, we believe the new membership schedule will help everyone clarify, whether or not, they are up to date on their membership.

The work of Muleskinners and the Central Committee is funded largely by membership contributions. The continued high quality speaker presentations at the Muleskinners' luncheons, the Democratic Party's headquarters, the newsletter and the support for our candidates depend on YOU.

This year we are expanding our activities to meet the challenge of the right wing, and we need your help more than ever. Will you please fill out the membership form below and help us make *Boone a deep blue county*.

Angie Wood Chairperson, Boone County Democratic Central Committee

DONATE / RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW FOR 2017

The Boone County Democratic Party is a full-time, year-in, year-out, year-round organization—that means we need your continued involvement. Please renew your membership for 2017 Your annual membership helps to provide the resources necessary. NOW with a joint option to **pay both the Party and Muleskinners dues with one check**.

Name: _____ City: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ @ _____

Phone Number: _____ Date: _____

Required for Donations over \$100: Occupation _____ Employer _____



Add me to the email listserv
 (notifies you of all upcoming events)

Send me the newsletter
 By mail By email

You may use ActBlue for one-time or ongoing monthly contributions online. Go to: www.boonecountydems.org, Then click on "Contribute" & select the Membership Fund. **And, send us this completed form so we know how to direct your donation.**

Paid By: Check Cash or ActBlue (one time , monthly)

Please Circle Your Membership Level

Membership Level:	Individual			Household		
	BCDP Only	M'Skinners Only	Joint	BCDP Only	M'Skinners Only	Joint
Populist Member	\$40	\$25	\$65/yr	\$75	\$45	\$120/yr
Supporting Member	\$80	\$25	\$105/yr	\$150	\$45	\$195/yr
Sustaining Member	\$130	\$25	\$155/yr	\$240	\$45	\$285/yr
Building Member	\$255	\$25	\$280/yr	\$475	\$45	\$520/yr
Student	\$10					

Please Make Checks Payable to BCDP & Mail to:
Boone County Democrats, P.O. Box 1294, Columbia, MO 65205