



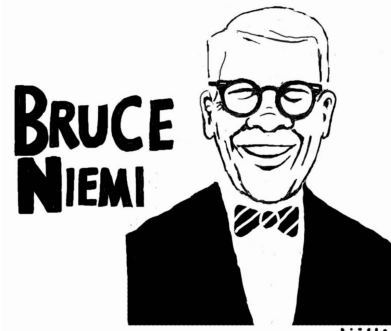
# January Newsletter

## Letter from The Chair

### New year, new us

Happy new year fellow Democrats! With the holidays behind us, we are looking forward to exciting things happening in Election 2024 and your county party is gearing up to meet the challenge.

We have a brand-new party website! [The website](#) has brighter graphics. It has a consolidated calendar listing party and candidate events, pictures of members of the county Central Committee, our election schedule and more! Go to the video below for a quick preview, but be sure to go and explore the new site yourself!



A new logo is in the works and Democrats have a hand in selecting the trademark for the new election cycle. Check out the selection of new designs for the brand and let us know what you think! [Click here!](#)

As we enter 2024, your Central CommiMee can look back at the nine months of our administration. We are being good stewards of the party's property and recourses; we are working to find candidates for federal, state, and hopefully, county offices; we are rallying enthusiasm for Democrats as a viable alternative to the MAGA majority of Republican officeholders and policies in Oklahoma government; we are building a professional and volunteer staff to run the party's affairs; and first and foremost, we are diligently raising funds for your county party's 2024 war chest!

### Fundraising

The legendary Democratic Speaker of the California Assembly, Jesse Unruh once quipped "Money is the mother's milk of politics." Fundraising can be a corrupting factor in power politics, but for better or worse, the reality is that billions of dollars are needed to conduct campaigns.

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 during the first quarter of 2024. This amount is needed not only to “keep the lights on” but to build the party’s infrastructure to meet the demand for “getting the word out” in the campaign and services for candidates filing in early April.

The traditional fundraising technique is fundraisers for big Democratic Donors. We conducted two Party of the Party galas in 2023. On January 16th David Riggs and Rodger Randle will host another of these fundraisers. We appreciate the support at these big-Bcket events, but we need the help of small donors too. A great way that you can support the party is through small monthly sustainable contributions.

At a recent event hosted by Keith McArtor and Melani Hamilton, Jo Boyte made the following appeal for these small sustainable contributions:

This has been on my mind for a very long time. When Jack was County Chair, we had very few people give a specified amount of money to the party regularly. That meant that much time was spent on asking for donations, leaving much less time for everyday tasks and ideas or ways to increase turnout or other ideas to improve the results of elections. During that time, I often thought, "[What if each registered Democrat in Tulsa County just gave us one dollar?](#)" We would have so much more time to get out the vote!

In January of 2023, there were 113,942 registered Democrats. Those numbers may have changed so let's round it down to 112,000. If each of those 112,000 voters gave one dollar each month to the party, then the party would have \$112,000 to work with. That's probably not going to happen, so what if we could get one-half of that number to give \$5 a month? That would be \$280,000 a month. Fantastic!

Well, maybe we could only get one-fourth of them just to donate \$10 per month, we would still have \$280,000. That would be great, but if we could just get one-eighth of them (14,000) to donate \$25 per month, we would raise \$350,000. Of course, we would hope some of those who have more, would contribute more.

I couldn't have put it any better than Mrs. Boyte. [Use this handy link](#) and send in your pledge today.

### **Trump Ballot Challenge**

Since the Colorado Supreme Court's Anderson v. Griswold decision on December 19 removing the candidacy of former President Donald J. Trump from the Colorado Republican Primary ballot based on the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, several other states have been confronted with similar challenges. On December 28, Maine Secretary of State Shenna Bellows disqualified Mr. Trump from the Pine Tree State's primary election ballot. Meanwhile, in California, Secretary of State Shirley Webber certified Trump on the Golden State's ballot.

While these state decisions are subject to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, our state and county Democratic Party received inquiries such as “What are Oklahoma Democrats going to do about keeping Trump off our March 5th Super Tuesday Primary?” The short answer is “nothing.” Oklahoma Democrats lack legal standing. The longish answer is there are two

avenues - constitution and state process: the Attorney General must initiate the constitutional process. There is no political will there. Our Attorney General, Gentner Drummond, is a Republican and is sensitive to MAGA Republicans “primarying” his 2026 reelection or gubernatorial bid. AG Drummond has already incurred backlash from those quarters in some of his recent opinions on Sovereignty and state-funded religious schools.

The state ballot access process must be initiated by a candidate on the same ballot. In other words, another Republican presidential candidate would have had to protest Trump’s presence on the ballot within the specific window of time after the filing period, that has elapsed.

Donald J. Trump, a former president and suspected insurrectionist, will be on Oklahoma’s ballot on Super Tuesday, and will easily win that primary, ensuring that our state will be on the wrong side of history.

This is an interesting political science question demonstrating how each state has an election apparatus that conducts president-nominating primaries and caucuses concluding in a national convention nomination for the party’s presidential and vice-presidential candidates. Those nominees appear on the November 5th general election ballot to determine the state’s electoral college votes. The electoral votes are ultimately counted before a joint session of Congress; and the president of the Senate (vice president) formally announces the Election 2024 election result on January 6, 2025.

### **Candidate recruitment**

We are pleased to announce that Mark Taylor is a candidate for state representative in House District 74. HD 74 constitutes Owasso; an area heretofore has been a solid Republican area. Mr. Taylor is a civil engineer who specializes in the planning and construction of midstream oil and gas facilities. He is a graduate of St. John’s University in Queens, N.Y., and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He served his country in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a captain commanding an engineering platoon at Ft. Campbell, KY.

Filling the ballot with Democratic candidates is important to our party. We are active citizens interested in taking part in the governance of our nation, state, and county. We have a tough year ahead of us in turning Tulsa County Blue and we welcome your help during this important election.

**Democratically Yours,**

Bruce Niemi, Chair



[Volunteer!](#)

[Donate Here!](#)

## [A New Look](#)

The Tula County Democratic Party is considering a new logo and marketing and we need your input!

Use a quick second to view the logo options we have or to submit your own design for our new look moving into the 2024 cycle!

[Vote Today!](#)

## [Join one of our Committees!](#)

**Candidate Recruitment:** The Candidate Recruitment Committee is responsible for identifying and recruiting Democratic candidates to run for office in Tulsa County. [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Community Action:** The Community Action Committee is responsible for identifying volunteer activities and county initiatives that TCDP volunteers can take part in. This Committee plays a vital role in building and sustaining relationships in communities across the county. [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Education:** The Education Committee is a place for public education advocates to come together and promote our party's values. This committee will work closely with the Legislative Advocacy Committee and will help engage the membership in events and initiatives that support public education in Tulsa County. [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Events:** The Events Committee is responsible for planning, organizing, and executing successful events that align with the organization's mission and goals, providing memorable experiences for participants. [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Fundraising:** The Fundraising Committee is responsible for developing and implementing strategies to secure financial resources and support for the Tulsa Democratic Party's (TCDP) activities, programs, and projects. [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Legislative Advocacy:** The Legislative Advocacy Committee is responsible for tracking and updating our membership on happenings at the state legislature and training members on how to find their representatives, track active legislation, and effectively communicate with their legislators. [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Marketing & Outreach:** The Marketing & Outreach Committee will be responsible for developing and implementing strategies to promote the Tulsa County Democratic Party's (TCDP) values (a reflection of our resolutions passed in the convention), events, candidates, and to grow the party through traditional and digital media. [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Volunteer Recruitment:** The Volunteer Recruitment Committee is responsible for identifying, recruiting, training, and retaining volunteers to staff the office, staff events, and help candidates during the election cycle. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Joining a committee gives you a unique chance to collaborate with like-minded individuals, make a tangible difference, and contribute to our success in Tulsa County!

[Join a Committee!](#)



For those interested in organizing on a different level, you may check out ACTION!

**ACTION** stands for Allied Communities of Tulsa Inspiring Our Neighborhoods.

They are a broad-based organization—a non-profit comprised of various faith-based and civic institutions working together for the common good of our members and our community.

### Their vision and mission

They envision an engaged, equitable community where ALL people have the power to collectively influence public decisions.

They pursue our vision by:

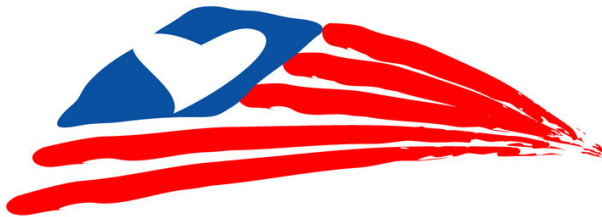
1. Building deep interpersonal relationships
2. Developing regular people to be impactful leaders in their communities and institutions
3. Helping our member institutions build power to effect political change for the greater good in accordance with their stated missions and values

[Learn More](#)

# Future Events



## HEART OF THE PARTY



Oklahoma Federation of Democratic Women

## Mark your Calendars!

### HOP Spring Fundraiser

**February 25th, 2pm - 4pm**

**Buckingham Ballroom - Downtown  
Doubletree**

### Join HOP this Monday!

Join the Heart of the Party for their January monthly meeting at Baxters Interurban Grill on Monday, January 8th, 6-8 P.M.

[We hope to see you there!](#)

Jane Kleeb, Chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party, will be the featured speaker. Her book, *Harvest the Vote*, references her work building a coalition of rural Democratic voters in Nebraska!

She will discuss how she persuades reluctant, disheartened, and disinterested voters to engage or re-engage with the Democratic Party. You may purchase and read her book before the event!

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

# ANNUAL PARADE 2024

JANUARY 15TH

LINEUP: 10:00 AM

PARADE START: 11:00 AM

# MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY



Join the Tulsa County Democratic Party's group as we march in Tulsa's 45th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Parade!

Participants can walk or sit on the float and wave to parade watchers!

We hope to see you there!

[Signup Here!](#)

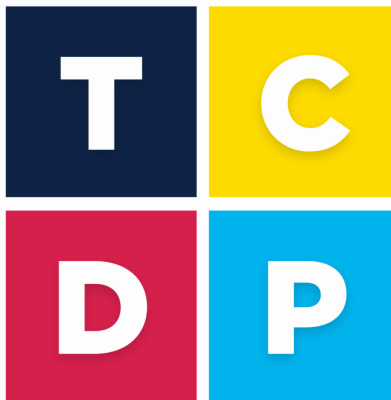
## Walk with us on MLK Day!

January 15th

Lineup: 10:00 AM

Parade Start: 11:00 AM

[www.tulsacountydemocrats.org](http://www.tulsacountydemocrats.org)



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