



## Message from David Welch, Chair, DPGC

Hello Democrats!

It's not a sure thing. It might be a safe bet. It looks like the scales are tipped in favor of Donald Trump to be the Republican nominee for President of the United States. It also appears that Hillary Clinton will be the Democratic nominee. Bernie Sanders made a surprising and strong run for the Democratic nod but his road to the nomination now appears to be unlikely.

Now, what does this mean for us – nationally and locally? First, let's talk about our republican opponents. Should Trump actually be the nominee and Clinton his opponent, then the current polls predict an electoral college vote of between 240 and 250 votes for Clinton. The South may stay solidly behind the Republican Candidate with a possible crack here and there - Arkansas being one of them. Ted Cruz recently refused to confirm his support of the Republican nominee should it be Trump. What happens then? If the extremists in the Republican Party refuse to accept Trump and do the unthinkable – form a third party – then the picture for a Democratic sweep becomes possible.

Locally, a Trump-Clinton national election plays well for us. Connor Eldridge's campaign for Senate would do well to tie our current republican Senator John Boozman to Trump's coattails and play up the current Senator's lockstep approach to voting the Republican line. I believe this strategy will work well for the candidates running for State Legislature – Jerry Rephan for District 25 and Richard Bright for District 18. The Republican's strategy of nationalizing elections, even at the local level can now come back to bite them. It seems reasonable to play the same strategy with them in this election. For our county candidates, it does reasonable to not only demonstrate their understanding of local issues but to ties their Republican opponent to the national ticket.

Finally, should lightening strike and none of the predictions above prove to be accurate, then my next column will focus on how I went so wrong – frankly, I wouldn't be totally surprised – it's a crazy year!

On a sad note: Our valuable and contributing member Larry Alderman has passed away. If you wish to send a card, the address is:

Elizabeth Alderman  
101 Island Drive - #702  
Hot Springs, AR 71913 .

## CANDIDATE SPOTLIGHT



**Richard Bright State Representative  
District 18**

I am Justice of the Peace in Clark County and attorney with Taylor King and Assoc. I am married to Leslie and we have a five year old daughter. We are expecting another daughter who is due to arrive in May this year.

I know about hard work and accountability. Leslie's dad is a rice and bean farmer in North East Arkansas. My father is a former school administrator who is also known for growing large watermelons at our farm in Hope, Arkansas.  
[www.giantwatermelons.com](http://www.giantwatermelons.com)

I look forward to meeting you out on the campaign trail!

Richard Bright for State Rep  
P.O. Box 1154  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923

A lot of folks have asked me, "Can I vote for you?" and, "Am I in your district?" District 18 changed after redistricting in 2011 where it went from covering two counties to four. Here is a map from the Arkansas Secretary of State's Office of District 18 which includes parts of Clark, Dallas, Garland, and Hot Spring Counties. Check out the following link where you can look at your individual voting information. It's worth taking a look. You can see your district information at [www.voterview.ar-nova.org/VoterView/RegistrantSearch.do](http://www.voterview.ar-nova.org/VoterView/RegistrantSearch.do)

Connect with Richard on Facebook.

**HEADQUARTERS**  
Democratic Party of Garland County

Hours:  
Monday – Open from 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.  
For Brown Bag Lunch and Discussion  
(Please call before arrival)

Tuesday – Closed (until further notice)

Wednesday – Open from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday - 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.

Friday – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Please have patience with us – this office is staffed by volunteers and we're working on new scheduling!

Meanwhile, you may call 501/624-0300 and leave a message. We'll return your call as soon as possible



Democratic Headquarters Looking Good!!

Hello Democrats,

Below is a web address where you can download Form B to run as a delegate to the national convention.

You may also go to [Arkdems.org](http://Arkdems.org) - click under Resources to access the form.

Dave Welch  
Chair, DPGC

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/f098dprpsh8cc81/2016%20DPA%20Delegate%20Selection%20FORM%20B.pdf?dl=0>

Democratic Party of Garland County  
608 W Grand Ave Hot Springs, Arkansas  
(501) 624-0300

Chairman David Welch [idwelch@msn.com](mailto:dwelch@msn.com)  
Vice-Chair Mary Lowe [mfranceslowe@gmail.com](mailto:mfranceslowe@gmail.com)  
Treasurer Mark Toth [mark\\_toth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mark_toth@sbcglobal.net)  
Secretary Dorothy Clark [dmclark1620@gmail.com](mailto:dmclark1620@gmail.com)

Our website page:

<http://www.garlandcountydemocrats.org/>

"Like" us on Facebook

## IMPORTANT DATES

- May 12-19 Filing period to file Delegate Selection Form B
- May 18 5pm Social 5:30 pm Democratic Party of Garland Co. Meeting at ASMSA 200 Whittington Ave. Program: Informational and training session for the Special State Convention. All Delegates who filed Form A and if filing Form B please attend.
- May 23 Noon Brown Bag Lunch, Dave Welch presents Liberty & Justice for All. Differences between Democrats and Republicans.
- May 24 VCK 5pm Social 5:30pm Meeting at Henderson Hot Springs Education Building 201 Market St.
- June 11 Special State Convention The convention to elect delegates will be held June 11 at 8am registration 9am gravel on the campus at the University of Central Arkansas in the Farris Center in Conway.
- July 25-28 National Democratic Convention

