



BLUE NOTES

Our 2015 picnic:



(TOP) New Douglas County Superintendent of Schools Teri White addresses more than 100 people at the annual Douglas Democrats' Picnic held July 25 in Genoa. She called for all to honor teachers. "Teachers aren't afraid of change ... they embrace it," she said. "It's our job to stand up and achieve." She said education "opens doors, and that is a great equalizer."



(BOTTOM) — DCDCC Chair Kimi Cole addresses the picnic gathering.

Carson Dems at State Fair

Carson Democrats will staff a booth at the Nevada State Fair July 30 - Aug. 2.

Be sure to stop by, say "hi," and offer support to our Democratic neighbors to the north!

Douglas Dems in the lens



(ABOVE LEFT) A full house listens to Emmy Ruiz, Nevada State Director for the Hillary Clinton campaign at the DCDCC meeting July 23.

(ABOVE RIGHT) Kimi Cole with Emmy Ruiz, Michelle White and Han Nguyen of the Hillary Clinton Nevada campaign staff.



(LEFT) Douglas Dems at the State Central Committee meeting in Reno June 20.

From the Chair ...



Of the People. By the People. For the People.



By Kimi Cole

These words have stuck with me since a sixth grade class assignment required us to memorize Lincoln's famous speech given at Gettysburg. The speech was delivered while the country was embroiled in the Civil War, the deadliest U.S. conflict ever, based on the number of American lives lost.

From Lincoln's words: *"The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced."*

The reference, beyond the incredible cost that had already been paid, was that the work begun in conflict would be ongoing in more peaceful times and should compel the living to continue that work. I'm going to stick my neck out a little bit here and presume if you're reading this, you belong to the group "us the living."

"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

The freedoms we enjoy, and all too often even take for granted, were only achieved due to the commitments and sacrifices of those who went before us, who felt so strongly about their beliefs in freedom that they were willing to pay the ultimate price to achieve it.

It is totally our choice. Do we take our freedoms for granted, enjoying the relative comforts of non-involvement, while those freedoms continue to erode even further? How comfortable is it when our freedoms disappear?

I, for one, live with appreciation and gratitude for the life I have been able to enjoy. But a current comfortable situation should not, and cannot provide an excuse to not be involved in the political process.

Alternatively, I see current times as the time to be involved the most!

A question I hear often: "Is there anything I can actually DO?" To that, I respond with more questions: Can you dial a phone? Can you write a letter? Can you send an email? Can you occasionally attend a session or committee hearing while the Legislature is in session to let our legislators know that you DO care?

I'll bet everyone reading this can do at least one or more of these.

Another common question: "Does my voice REALLY matter?" As I've gotten to know many legislators, I've learned a couple things: (1) They're human beings with jobs to do and (2) None of them read minds. The best way for anyone to know what's on your mind is for you to tell them. So, if something is on your mind and a legislator is in a position to do something about it, TELL THEM!

OF THE PEOPLE — that includes you!

BY THE PEOPLE — yep, that's you again!

FOR THE PEOPLE — you got it!

Rewards in life come not so much from what we try to take out but rather what we choose to put in!

It's now easier than ever to contribute to your Douglas County Democrats. Just go to our Web Page (douglasdems.org) and click on the ActBlue button.

Member Profile:

Evan Beavers



Evan Beavers

By **PAT STANLEY**

“I’ve been a Democrat since the day I was born,” Evan Beavers said with pride during a recent interview.

Beavers, a past Douglas County Democratic Central Committee chair, currently serves as the Nevada Attorney for Injured Workers, overseeing 14 lawyers in Carson City and Las Vegas. He was appointed to the post by Gov. Jim Gibbons, then reappointed by the current state Chief Executive, Gov. Brian Sandoval.

Although appointed by Republican governors, he pointed out the position is nonpartisan, and he is proud to be a Democrat. “That’s not going to change,” he said.

Beavers received his law degree from the Oklahoma City University School of Law after growing up in New Mexico and working for a while in the oil and gas business. He also earned a degree in university studies from the University of New Mexico.

He and his family moved to Nevada in 1986. “I’d always liked Nevada,” he said. He took a job as a law clerk in Tonopah, and then worked for the Nevada Legislative Counsel during the 1989 session. He opened a law practice in Minden the following year, and bought the home in which he and his wife, Vicki, still live.

They have two grown sons. One is a lawyer, having just recently passed the Nevada State Bar exam. The other teaches in rural northern Thailand.

“My mother, who is now 93, is a good liberal Democrat,” he said with a smile.

He believes in what Democrats stand

for. “They are progressive. They see a problem and can come up with a resolution,” he said.

“Republicans are the party of can’t, won’t and don’t. They see a problem and come up with excuses.”

Beavers predicted that Douglas County will become bluer, “but not in my lifetime. I suspect we will always have a conservative local political base,” he said. He believes the rural northern Nevada counties “are so far to the right I don’t think they’re ever coming back.”

But he held out hope for Reno. “I think it will become more Democratic over time.”

He started to attend Democratic Central Committee meetings in the 1990s, and recalled the chairmanship going back and forth between himself and Gim Hollister. “Everything was in a cardboard box,” he joked. “At the end of one term we’d just exchange the box.”

He said the local party really took hold after President George Bush’s first term. Democrats were not happy. “We put on a County Convention at Minden Elementary School and it was a great turnout. They were committed, agitated, progressive Democrats.” He said local Democrats then started volunteering for positions and have been active ever since.



Shedding tears

Leaning a bit to the left ...

Grown men don't cry, right?

That's the way I was brought up. It was an unspoken rule.

Okay, I broke the rule. I cried. Recently.

It happened a few weeks ago while I was watching CNN coverage of President Obama delivering the eulogy for the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, one of nine people slain in a mass shooting at an historic church in Charleston, South Carolina.

When the President paused, then started to sing "Amazing Grace," tears flowed from sea to shining sea. Many say it may be his legacy in what are the defining final months of his eight years in office.

After the service, the President's popularity spiked above 50 percent for the first time since 2013, according to a CNN poll. I read an online article that stated it was "one of the most powerful moments of his presidency."

The final words of the first stanza of the 18th century ode to salvation are what got to me: "I was once lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see."

The President urged we open our eyes to growing violence, to the easy availability of guns, and to all that ails our nation. Some people, I'm sure, will scoff and be blind to our weaknesses. Others, I pray, will open their eyes and take action.

I'm reminded of a saying widely attributed to British philosopher and sociologist Herbert Spencer: "There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments and which can not fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance — that principle is contempt prior to investigation."

In other words: keep an open mind.

So I'm a grown man and I cried. And it's OK. Hey...they were tears of pride for our Commander In Chief.



(LEFT) Kimi Cole meets Presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton in Reno.

Your 2014 DCDCC Officers ...

Chair of DCDCC:	Kimi Cole (KimiMCole@gmail.com)
First Vice Chair:	Brian Dempsey
Second Vice Chair:	Susan Minor
Secretary:	Melanie Meehan-Crossley
Treasurer:	Jan Walls
Member-at-large:	Peggy Wozniak
Member-at-large:	Eric Griffin

Chairs of Standing Committees:

Administration	Katherine Winans
Programs/Policy:	Kimi Cole
Membership:	Katherine Winans
Candidate Recruitment:	Nancy Epstein
Publicity/Public Relations:	Pat Stanley
Fundraising/Finance:	(Your name here)

Timely Ticklers



July 30- August 2
 Nevada State Fair, Carson City
 Fuji Park

August 8 — Saturday
 Catherine Cortez Masto
 1:00 pm- Lunch and Round table
 discussion
 Democratic HQ: 1513 Hwy 395 N.

August 10 — Monday
 DCDCC Executive Committee
 6 p.m.
 Democratic HQ: 1513 Hwy 395 N.

August 27 — Thursday
 Douglas Democrats monthly meeting.
 Social: 6:30 p.m. — Meeting: 7 p.m.
 Democratic HQ: 1513 Hwy 395 N.

September 19- Saturday
 NSDP State Central Committee
 Carson City

January 9, 2016- “First In The
 West” Pre-Caucus Dinner

February 20, 2016 — Saturday
 Statewide Democratic Caucuses

April 2, 2016
 County Democratic Conventions

June 3-5, 2016
 Nevada State Democratic
 convention