

Welcome



Donkey Mail

Published
April 11, 2016

STATE CONVENTION REPORT!

Oklahoma Democratic Party State Convention Report

On Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9, 2016 the Oklahoma Democratic Party (ODP) met at the Cox Convention Center in OKC for its state convention.

*Friday was a day for looking at exhibits or attending **training sessions**. The following Comanche County delegates attended training sessions for the VAN/Votebuilder, led by Andrew Rickel, the ODP IT Director: **Glenda Stewart, Barbara Harrison, Betty Simmons and Charles Kolker**. The VAN is the Democratic Party's voter database used for campaigning and many other purposes. Each Comanche County Precinct Chair should have access to the VAN, having obtained a user name and created a password. Contact the county party chair, Charles Kolker, if you do not have access to the VAN yet.*

*Friday evening was the **Carl Albert Dinner**. Our Guest Speaker was Bill John Baker, Chief of the Cherokee Nation. He gave a stirring speech highlighting the contributions of the Cherokee Nation to Oklahoma and his commitment to the Democratic Party. The Keynote Speaker was Drew Edmondson, former OK Attorney General, who reviewed the catastrophes brought on by the Republicans and the goals of the party. In attendance at the dinner were: **Betty Simmons, Katie Taylor, Jacobi Crowley, Phil Jones, Marlene Jones, Mark Ashton and Charles Kolker**.*

*Saturday was the meat and potatoes day. Each Congressional Dist. met in a room that was separated into state Bernie and Hillary delegates. Those delegates were divided pursuant to the March 1 primary results in Oklahoma as follows, With the person(s) elected as national delegates shown in parenthesis: **Bernie male delegate: 1 (Mark Ashton); Bernie female delegates: 2 (Darcie Woodson & Betty Jean Harris); Hillary male delegate: 1 (Tim Mauldin) ; Hillary female delegate: 1 (Judy Calhoun).***

We then reconvened in the main meeting hall to elect 5 PLEO (party leaders & elected officials) national delegates, 8 At Large national delegates, and 3 Alternate national delegates.

Added to the national delegates are the 4 "super-delegates", that is, those who are automatically national delegates: the National Committeeman (Jim Frasier), the National Committeewoman (Betty McElderry), the state party chair (Mark Hammons) and the state party vice-chair (Connie Johnson).

What was impressive was the Democratic Party's commitment to diversity. The Party requires there to be gender diversity, so delegates are elected as far as possibly equally from each gender. Then, the Party strongly recommends as goals, that a portion of the delegates be from the following groups: African-American (11%), Native American (9%), Asian-Pacific Islanders (2%), Hispanic/Latino (4%), LGBTQ (3%), and youth 18%). There was a 45-minute break during the voting to man the computers to identify qualified delegates who matched these criteria. The ODP is sending to the national convention an impressively diverse delegation. This is going to show up on television screens every where at the national convention in Philadelphia in July so that the nation can see how inclusive our party is.

*Our Comanche County delegates that appeared at the convention: **Don Nelson, Judy Nelson, Barbara Morgan, Mike Morgan, Barbara Harrison, Mark Ashton, Charles Kolker, Ruby Peters, Betty Simmons, Kendra Sebo and Roy Morgan.***

WE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP IN THE CAMPAIGNS!

PLEASE CALL, OR E-MAIL: Charles Kolker, Chair, Comanche Co. Democratic Party, (580) 351-7265; ckolker@aol.com.