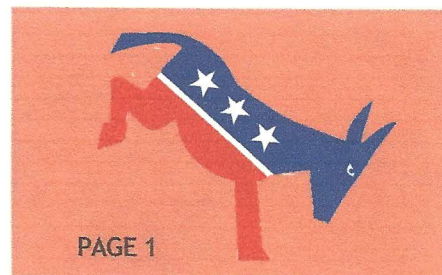


# KICKIN' NEWS

Publisher LOIW DEMOCRATIC CLUB

JUNE 2017



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## EDITOR'S LETTER

Events are getting fast and furious. Every day something new from Trump. Never anything positive for the country. If you have not been inspired to work for Democratic candidates by now, you've left the planet.

We are doing all we can for Ben Hixon, 30<sup>th</sup> District candidate for delegate. A phone banking group is already in place, but many more volunteers are needed. The governor's race is so important; it is our way to control the GOP Congress in Richmond and protect our state from the craziness.

Please check your e-mail often. Voter registration, will also be happening. Let's get involved. If you have neglected to pay dues, send it to Ellen Wilson, made out for \$25.00 to LOW Democratic Club.

**BLUE POWER !!!!!!!!!**

**Democrats are for Freedom**

## WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

BY: Shirley Phile

We have taken a much needed break in the month of July and now we need to come back together om August and work extra hard to elect Ben Hixon to the Virginia House of Delegates. Ben has attended picnic and the LOW 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. I hope most of you have spoken with him.

On a different note, it is time to say good-by to Pat Drake, who has been our secretary for seven years. She and Royce will be moving to Charlottesville in August. Make a point of telling her , by phone or e-mail, how much we appreciated her efforts.

Our regular meeting will resume in August, the 9<sup>th</sup>, in the Community Center. Program - voter registration, and a Hixon representative. Hope to see you there.

## FLAG DAY PICNIC JUNE 7

BY: C. Carr

Wow! Abundant attendance ! As usual, Special Events and many members provided delicious side dishes and desserts. The table décor was showers of stars. The door prize was provided by the Flower Cottage; the raffle prize was a patriotic throw.

The Demettes, wearing patriotic cowgirl hats, sang a satire to Trump.

Ben Hixon, 30<sup>th</sup> District House candidate spoke to a very receptive audience. He has a wonderful talking point we should use, "Democrats are for freedom." Many members gave checks and the Club presented him with \$500.00.

Our main purpose is to elect Democrats ! YIPPY Ti Yi Oi As I always say - if you missed it - you really missed it!

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## PARADE JULY 1

BY: CHRIS CARR

Yes - we were in the parade. We invited Ben Hixon, candidate for 30<sup>th</sup> House District, to participate. He brought a decorated, shiny blue truck and gave American flags to the kids. Terry Anderson was the driver. This was followed by meet and greet at the Point. Yes - we got our candidate out there !

We had a Democratic Club table, which had club pamphlets, Hixon cards and flower arrangements for sale.

Those members who participated were: Jim Donovan, Chris Carr, Sheila Clark, Norma ad Bill Lanier, Jan and Jim Moore and Kerry Sipe. A big thanks to them - wish we'd had more !

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## SOMETHING TO PONDER

"Hope is having faith, when doubting would be easier."

## VOTING

BY: Mary Berger

It is important for each of us to exercise our right to vote. Particularly, because President Trump has an active campaign to make voting more difficult. He has requested every state to send voter's information, including party, social security number and last time voted to the office of Vice President Pence. We phone bank, so know these lists also include race. This would be under control of his staff. Our Governor, McAuliffe, has denied this request as have scores of Governors of both parties.

Who needs to register? Anyone who has changed address(precinct) or anyone who will b 18 prior to Nov.7 .

What can we do?

In the past we have registered voters at Food Lion, Germanna College and CVS. To register voters this year, one needs to complete a form. One can do this on line or by viewing a film, which will be shown at our August meeting.

We need to let everyone know this election is important ! If you can - make a donation.

Candidates:

Governor: Ralph Northam  
ralphnortham.com

Lt. Governor: Justin Fairfax  
[www.fairfaxforlg.com](http://www.fairfaxforlg.com)

House of Delegates: Ben Hixon

benhixon.com



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## LOOK ! A BOOK !

BY: DIANE SIBLEY

In this edition of "Kickin' News" I'd like to talk about a book by Daniel J. Levitin titled "Weaponized Lies".; previously published as "A Field Guide to Lies." The subtitle of "Weaponized Lies" is "How to Think Critically in the Post-Truth Era." That subtitle would have been an even more accurate title. (Some editor somewhere really slipped up in the title choosing department.)

The author is a neuroscientist and the book is truly a "field guide" to help the readers avoid being fooled by practices in logic and numbers. Never has that skill been more important than now in The Trump Era. We need accurate information, analyzed correctly, subject to evaluation by legitimate authorities, not political hacks.

Professor Levitin's opening premise is, "First, the language we use has begun to obscure

the relationship between facts and fantasy. Second, this is a dangerous by-product of a lack of education in our country that has now affected an entire generation of citizens,

Euphemisms for lies are a common part of the modern lexicon. For example, half-truths, alt truth, conspiracy theories, and "fake news", are to be found or referred to in almost every broadcast that passes for a news broadcast. Even "political correctness" can sometimes be used to obscure facts that are real, but unpopular.

The author contends that what weaponizes lies is not the media or Facebook. The danger is in the intensity of the belief -the unquestioning over confidence that is true. While having so much information at our fingertips via the internet, etc., we waste our time there with searches for old friends, family, shopping options, etc., and fail to research

the big issues. -"Can coal ever be clean? What is narcissistic personality disorder and does my President have it and if so, what does that mean for the safety of my country?"

The book is divided into four sections including the introduction, which is every bit as informative as the other sections themselves. Part I is EVALUATING NUMBERS. Do not panic. Stats are dealt with in a way that is understandable to all. Humor is to be found in lots of anecdotal examples of how numbers are manipulated to suit the purpose of the instructor or savvy persuader. My favorite example is, "on average, humans have one testicle." The second section on valuating numbers opens with a quote from Mark Twain. "It ain't what you don't know that gets you in trouble. It's what you know for sure just ain't so."



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## BOOK (CONT.)

PART II is the section titled "EVALUATING WORDS". It opens with a quote from Alfred Lord Tennyson: "A lie with half a truth is ever the blackest of lies." This section is about how we come to believe something is true; how we come to know whether we should doubt or question. An example the author uses is the Mark Twain cited previously. Not the quote itself, but rather the attribution of the quote to others. The history of the quote is fascinating and a lesson in itself.

Part II is "EVALUATING THE WORLD". (again an iffy title) Section titles are "How Science Works", "Logical Fallacies" and "Knowing What You Don't Know". My favorite quote from this section is... as we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also known unknowns --

The ones we don't know  
we don't know.

U.S. SecretRY of Defense  
Donald Rumsfeld

I really enjoyed this book. I am a word person, and typically not very enthralled with numbers. Professor Levitin made the going easy. This is a book we all need to peruse and the sooner the better. There's an awful lot of nonsense out there and we have an obligation as citizens to call it out.

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DUES ? A DUESY !!

DUES DUES DUES DUES

Do you dues or do you don't?  
Do you abuse the dues ?

I forgot - I don't have my  
checkbook- Didn't I already  
pay it?

PPPHHHTTT!!!!

Please pay your dues  
LOW Dem Club \$25.00  
Send to Ellen Wilson  
204 Seven Pines Drive

## NAUGHTY NURSERY RHYMES

BY: C. Carr

Humpty Trumpty  
Sat on his wall  
Humpty Trumpty had a great  
fall.

All his attorneys and crooked  
henchman,  
Couldn't put Trumpty  
together again.

(but the Mexicans laughed  
like hell !)

Little boy Trump keeps  
tweetin' his horn.

Korea's in the meadow, the  
Russians in the corn.

Where is the Pres. Who looks  
after the nation ?

He's a'watchin' T.V. and a  
lyin' sensation.

By the way, Mother Goose  
burned her bonnet, took Little  
Bo Peep , and fled to Canada !



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## TRUMP THE GRAMMARIAN

BY: Chris Carr

Taught English for 30 years. I know what high school grade levels are supposed to achieve. When I hear Trump, my head is shaking and my hand reaches for the red pen !

It is one thing not to know a participle form a gerund, however having a disconnect between noun and verb is unacceptable. He is redundant, repetitive, and we all know strays off topic.

I can just imagine Trump writing a research paper. This buffoon would quote himself ! After all, he thought he could pardon himself.

Most shocking, many Americans find this blathering prose and style praise worthy. Of course, the forerunner to this phenomenon is Sarah Palin. Remember "pallin' around with terrorists"? Trump is pallin' around with Russians. Oh, for Obama's eloquence, sense and grace. Trump is a big bull elephant tromping on all that is grammatical. I give him a big fat "F" .

## ONIONS & ORCHIDS

BY: C. Carr

ONIONS TO - the new GOP mantra, "Trump will be fine, if we just put guard rails around him."

ORCHIDS TO: the Dems, who know he needs a play pen and a baby gate!" (Throw in some rubles for toys)

ONIONS TO: Trump and his whining and screaming about a Russian witch hunt'

ORCHIDS TO: Shakespeare - he knew Macbeth stood on the ramparts as the forest crept toward him.

Boil , boil, toil and trouble, Donald."

(I encourage the reading of Shakespeare at every opportunity)

ONIONS TO: Sessions and his minions as they try to silence the free press , passing it of as threats to national security.

ORCHIDS TO: Maxine Waters who calls out every slimy, illegal and un- American move this excuse for a President and his lackeys make.

Maxine demanded her time back in committee. Maxine has said money laundering for months. Maxine doesn't care that Hannity said he couldn't stand her James Brown wig.

Maxine is the Queen!!!